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AK 2931
AHM
ISSUE 15
8 435568 301665



FRENCH JET FIGHTERS

MIRAGE 2000N ■ MIRAGE F.1 ■ MIRAGE III CJ ■ MD450 OURAGAN ■ SUPER MYSTERE ■ SUPER ETENDARD



Fw 190A-8 1/48

NEW GENERATION



Ofhr. Walter Köhne, 3./JG 1,
Bad Lippspringe, Germany,
May 1944



W.Nr. 960542, Stab/JG 4,
Jüterbog-Damm, Germany,
Spring 1945



W.Nr. 350189, 12./JG 5, Herdla,
Norway, Spring 1945



W. Nr. 171180, 6./JG 300,
München-Neubiberg, Germany,
April – May 1945

ProfiPACK #82147

APRIL 2019 @ www.eduard.cz

eduard



W.Nr. 172733, Uffz. Ernst Schröder,
5./JG 300, Löbnitz, Germany,
October 1944

FRENCH JET FIGHTERS



Daniel Zamarbide Suárez

“Bienvenue dans un nouveau titre ACES HIGH” !!

There's nothing better than to welcome you in French language in an issue dedicated to a series of jet aircraft which built their combat legend during the past seven decades. France, one of the victorious nations of the Second World War, after the war decided to learn from its past mistakes and be at the forefront of the design and development of new weapons on their own, without having to depend on deliveries from such countries as the United States and United Kingdom, which together with the powerful Soviet Union were producing large quantities of several types of jet fighters during the Cold War. France took part in this competition developing a number of interesting aircraft designs, from the MD450 Ouragan,

through the Mystère/Super Mystère family, the Étendard/Super Étendard and the most famous Mirage family, which did not only successfully serve in the domestic front, but also made their way to the arsenals of several air forces all around the world, and proved their combat capabilities in different conditions. Another significant design, the Jaguar attack aircraft, was developed as a joint project with United Kingdom. In this issue we take you for a tour of these famous aircraft, with a variety of models and camouflage schemes which will delight every modeller. As usual, I hope you will like this issue.

Greetings and “Aurevoir”:

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Published & distributed by:



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1

Ouragan, the first all-French jet combat aircraft developed by Dassault company, is the subject of this article. Dani Zamarbide depicts a war veteran from Israeli Air Force in a quite rarely seen camouflage scheme, using Valom's 1/72 scale kit.



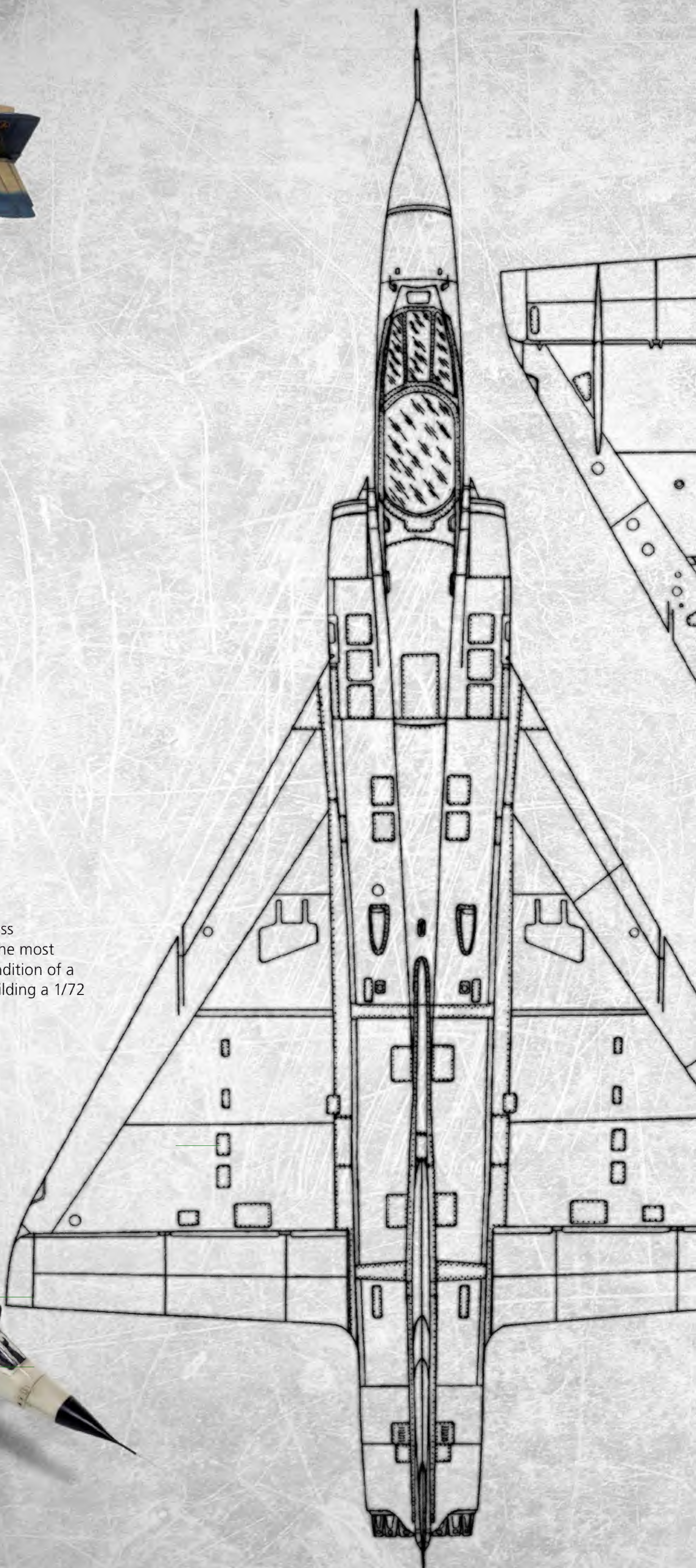
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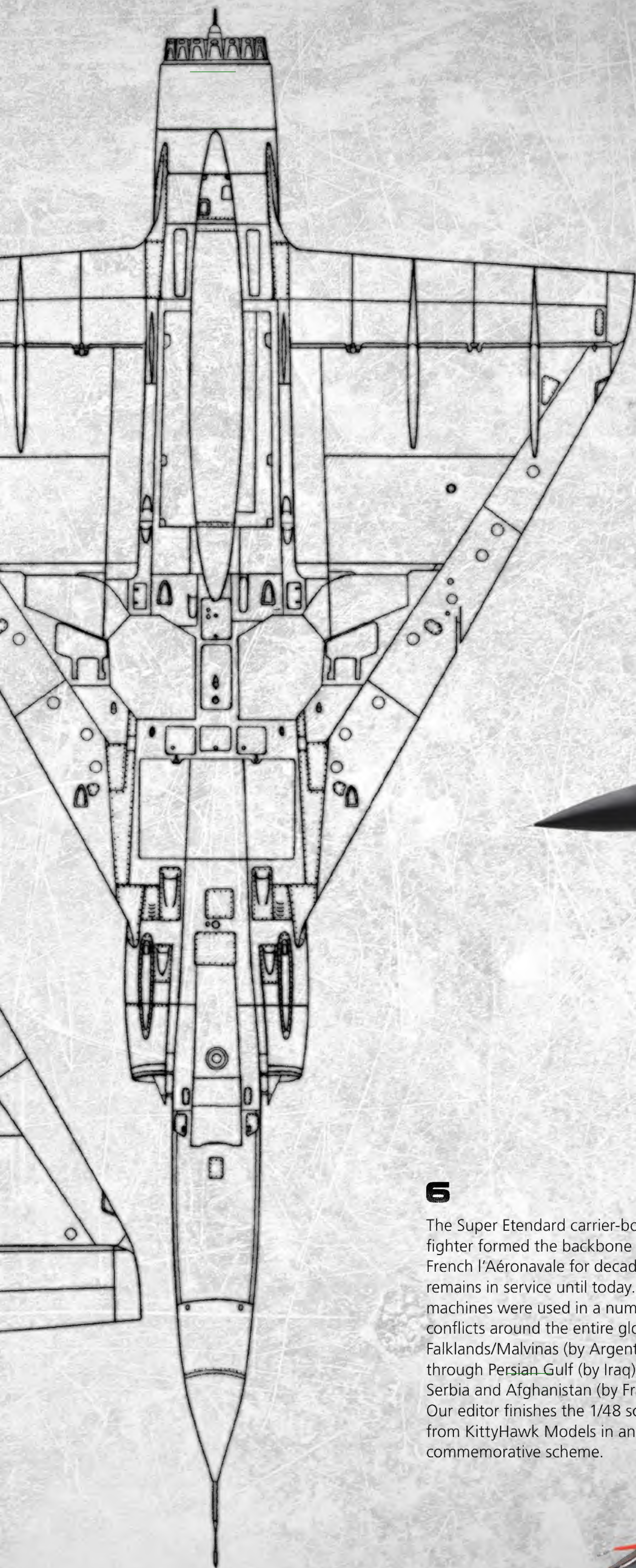
The Super Mystère was the first supersonic fighter to enter mass production in Western Europe. Without doubt, it was one of the most elegant aircraft of its period. Dani Zamarbide creates a fine rendition of a French Air Force machine in tri-colour camouflage scheme, building a 1/72 short run kit from AZ Model.



3

Ennio Croce debuts in our magazine with a colourful replica of a Mirage IIICJ finished in the early desert scheme of the Israeli Air Force, in 1/48 scale.





4

The Mirage 2000 is the latest member of the Mirage family. Designed in late 1970s, it evolved into a multirole aircraft, and remains in service in eight countries until today. Juan Alfaro brings us a 1/48 model of a French example in the typical camouflage scheme.



5

The Mirage F1 was designed as the successor of the Mirage III family. Although it was not produced in such large numbers as its predecessor, it did serve in the air forces of sixteen countries and took part in several conflicts. Manuel Campos builds for us a 1/48 kit from KittyHawk Models and paints it in the striking 'Lagarto' (Lizard) camouflage.

6

The Super Etendard carrier-borne strike fighter formed the backbone of the French l'Aéronavale for decades, and remains in service until today. These machines were used in a number of conflicts around the entire globe, from Falklands/Malvinas (by Argentina), through Persian Gulf (by Iraq), to Serbia and Afghanistan (by France). Our editor finishes the 1/48 scale kit from KittyHawk Models in an attractive commemorative scheme.



MODERN WAR FIGHTER





1/72 VALOM

The MD450 Ouragan was the first French combat fighter and the most successful before of the emergence of their substitutes, the Mystere family. The Ouragan was a robust and versatile single-engine fighter-bomber that stood out during the Middle East conflicts serving in the Israeli Air Force during the Suez Canal conflict.

The 1/72 scale model from the Valom brand is without a doubt very good. The pieces come finely detailed, including the riveting on the whole plane with a fineness and exquisite precision, also complemented by several resin pieces such as the ejection seat and the wheels. The model is composed of very few pieces but at the same time has some fit issues. Without a doubt, I recommend this model although it is a bit repetitive among scale modellers; remember a Mustang will always be a Mustang ... but the originality of the model compensates for the fitting issues ... but what model does not have them? A fast, simple and different model, Enjoy it!





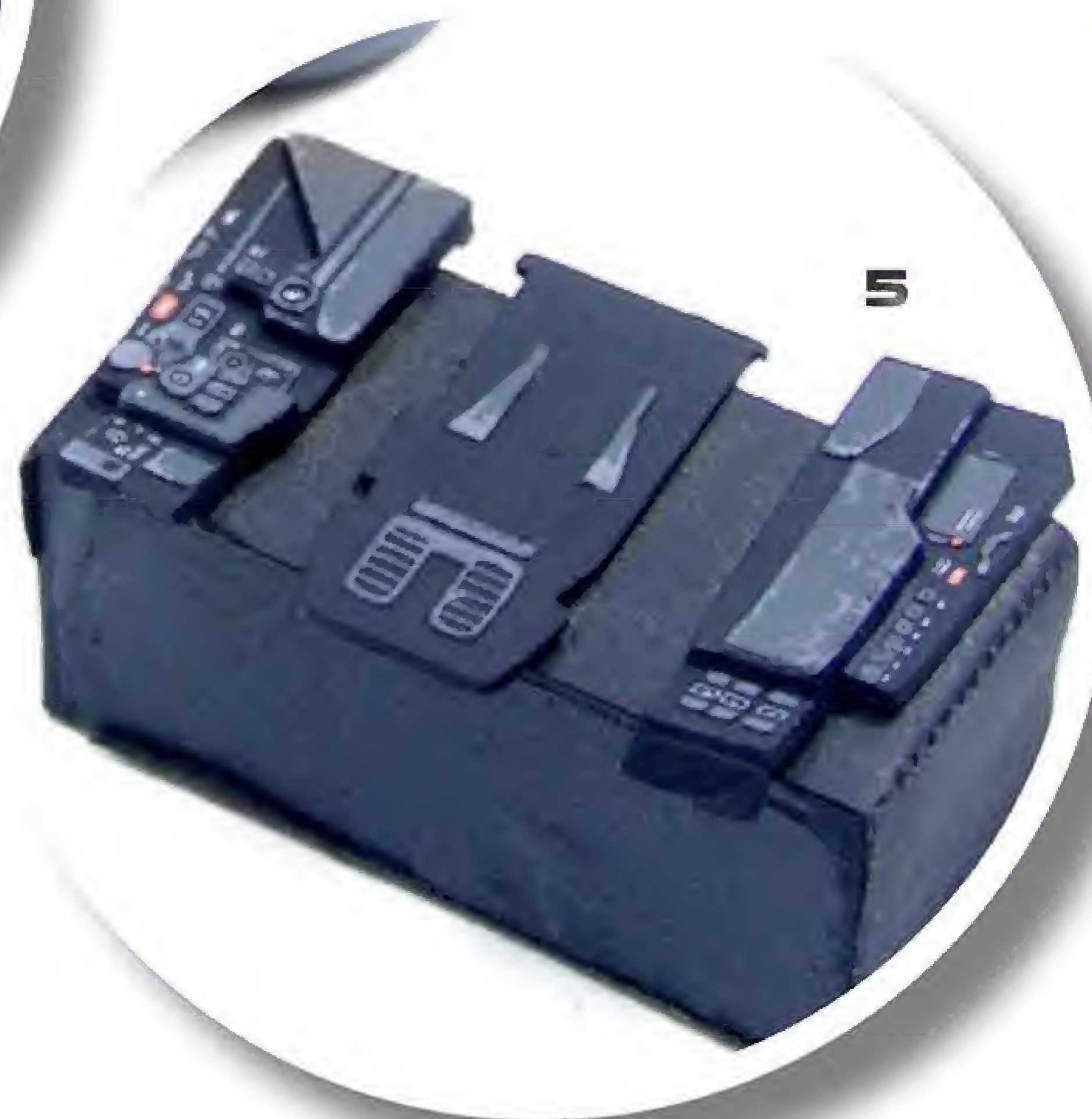
1. The cockpit is basic but very well detailed. The kit includes a resin seat as well as a small PE fret. We decided to add a PJ-Productions pilot.



2. The cockpit was airbrushed with a layer of Real Color RC-001 as a primer.



3. A lighter grey tone was used to highlight the basic details and areas.



4. Then we use a lighter grey to pop-up some other areas.

5. Finally, the rest of the elements were brush painted.

6. The dirt is simulated with a sand tone filter.

7. Cockpit finished. The front instrument panel is a PE part with a decal added.

8. The fitting of the main fuselage halves is perfect although we added some weight in the nose as the model tends to be tail heavy.





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9. The fitting of the wing roots to the fuselage is perfect in the upper area but we need to apply some filler on the underside. Then we need to engrave the missing panel lines and rivets.

10. The well bays and cockpit are then masked.

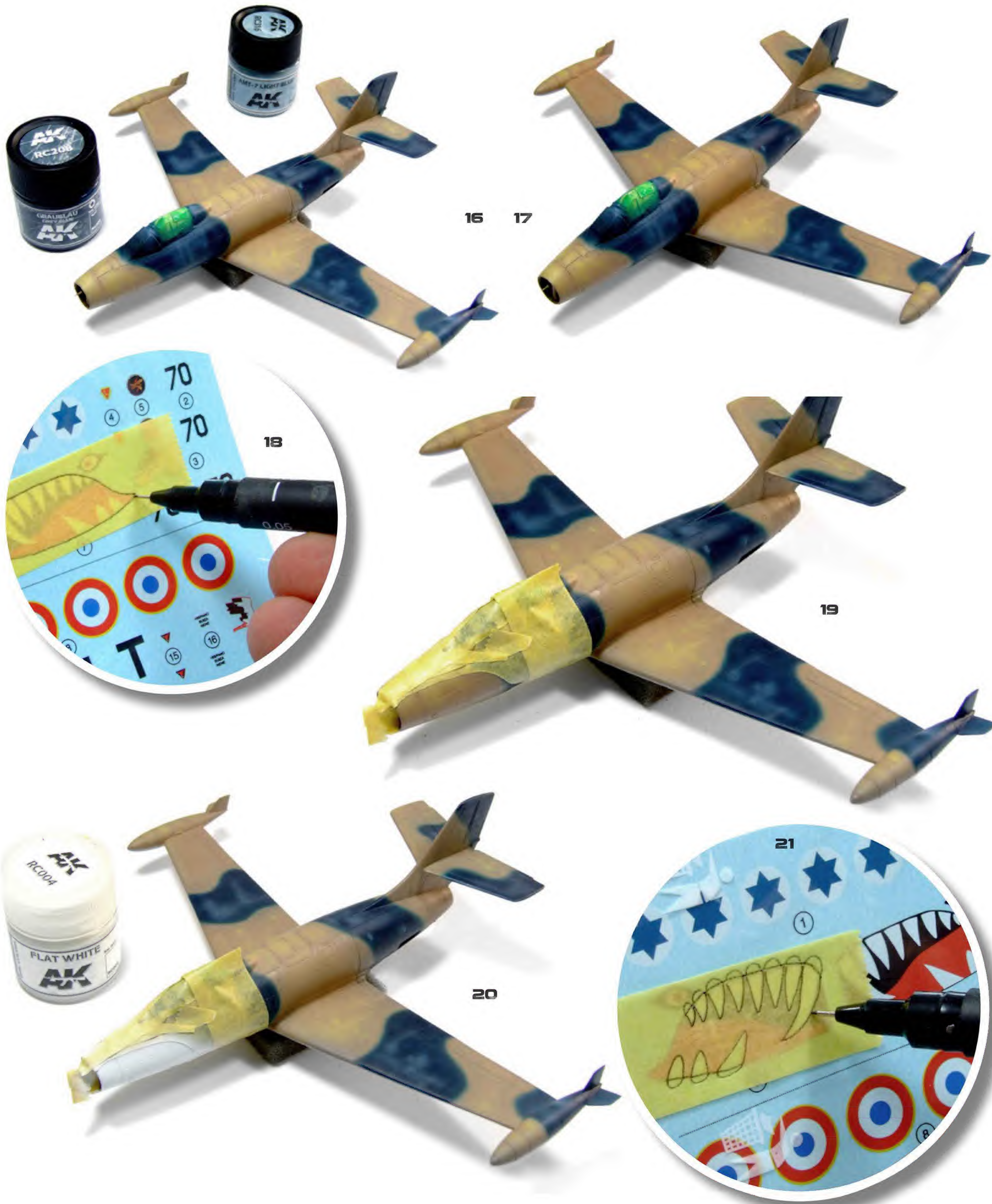
11. A layer of Real Color RC-001 flat black was airbrushed. A pencil was used to draw the camo pattern.

12. The first color applied is the lighter one, RC-254 Light Grey.

13. Real Color RC-225 is then airbrushed on the upper areas of the fuselage.

14. The third tone is RC-208, the darker shade.

15. Once the main camo pattern is applied we must add some volume and depth using a mix of RC-225 (80%) and RC-263 (20%).



16. We repeat the same step this time using a mix of RC-208 (80%) and RC-316 on the blue areas.

17. The overall look of the model at this stage.

18. This version includes a shark mouth in the nose using the decals as a reference. Masking tape is placed over the decal film, transferring the shape with a pencil.

19. Cut the masking tape and place the masks on both sides of the nose.

20. Apply a layer of matt white RC-004.

21. Repeat the masking process for painting the teeth.



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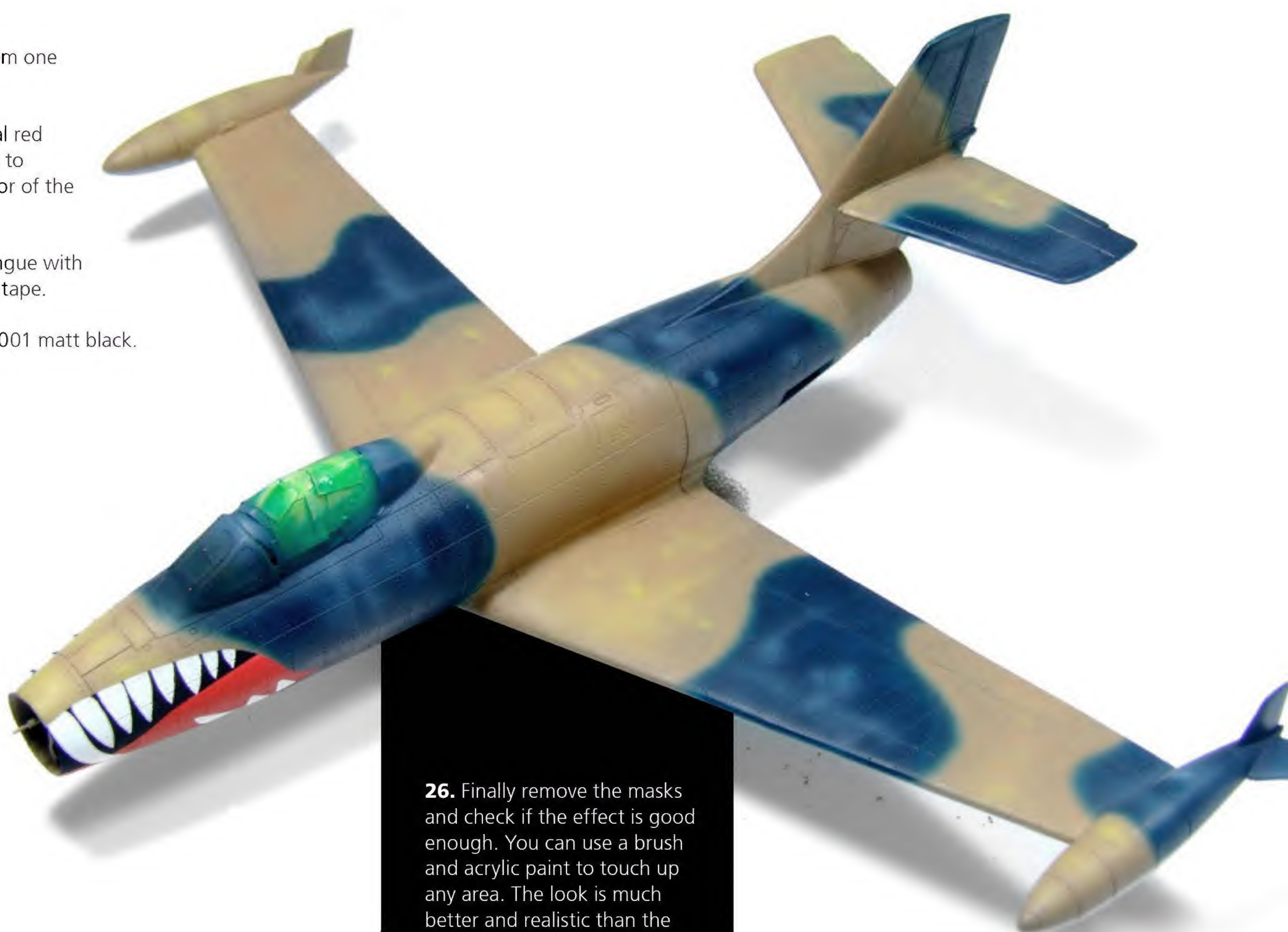
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22. ...placing them one by one.

23. RC 005 signal red is airbrushed first to represent the color of the tongue.

24. Mask the tongue with a bit of masking tape.

25. Airbrush RC-001 matt black.



26. Finally remove the masks and check if the effect is good enough. You can use a brush and acrylic paint to touch up any area. The look is much better and realistic than the decals.

27. Finally the eyes are brush painted as symmetrical as possible.

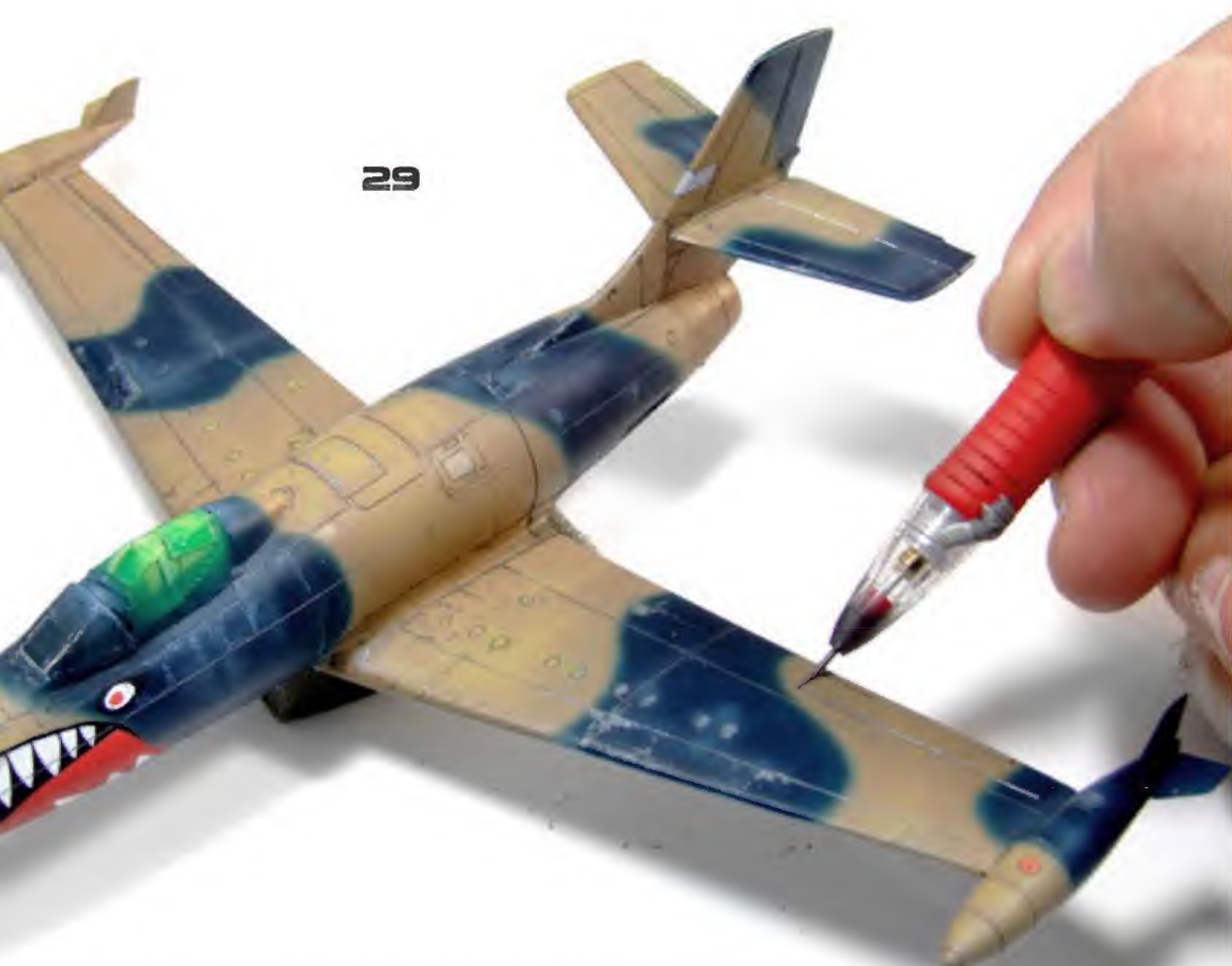


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28. Overall look of the model with the mouth and eyes painted.

29. The panel lines are painted using a 0.3 HB pencil.

30. Small scratches are added using a watercolor light blue pencil.



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31. Abteilung 502 Buff oil is perfect to add some weathering on the sand areas.

32. Repeat the process using a Blue-green oil over the blue areas.

33. The surface is sealed with a layer of Gauzy (green label).

34. Once dry we can add more subtle effects, also increasing the depth on the main volumes.



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35.
The remaining Israeli decals provided in the kit are now applied.



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36. The model is again sealed with a couple of coats of Ultra-mate varnish.

37. The masks placed on the wheel bays and canopy are removed, Followed by a black outline applied to the windscreen frame.

38. The weapons included in the kit are not well defined so were replaced with an Eduard resin set, especially the FFAR rockets. The fins of the bombs were replaced with ones made using Evergreen.

39. Weaponry finished and ready to be glued. The rockets are very fragile so take care when glueing.



40. The model finished. All the external elements are ready to be glued in place.





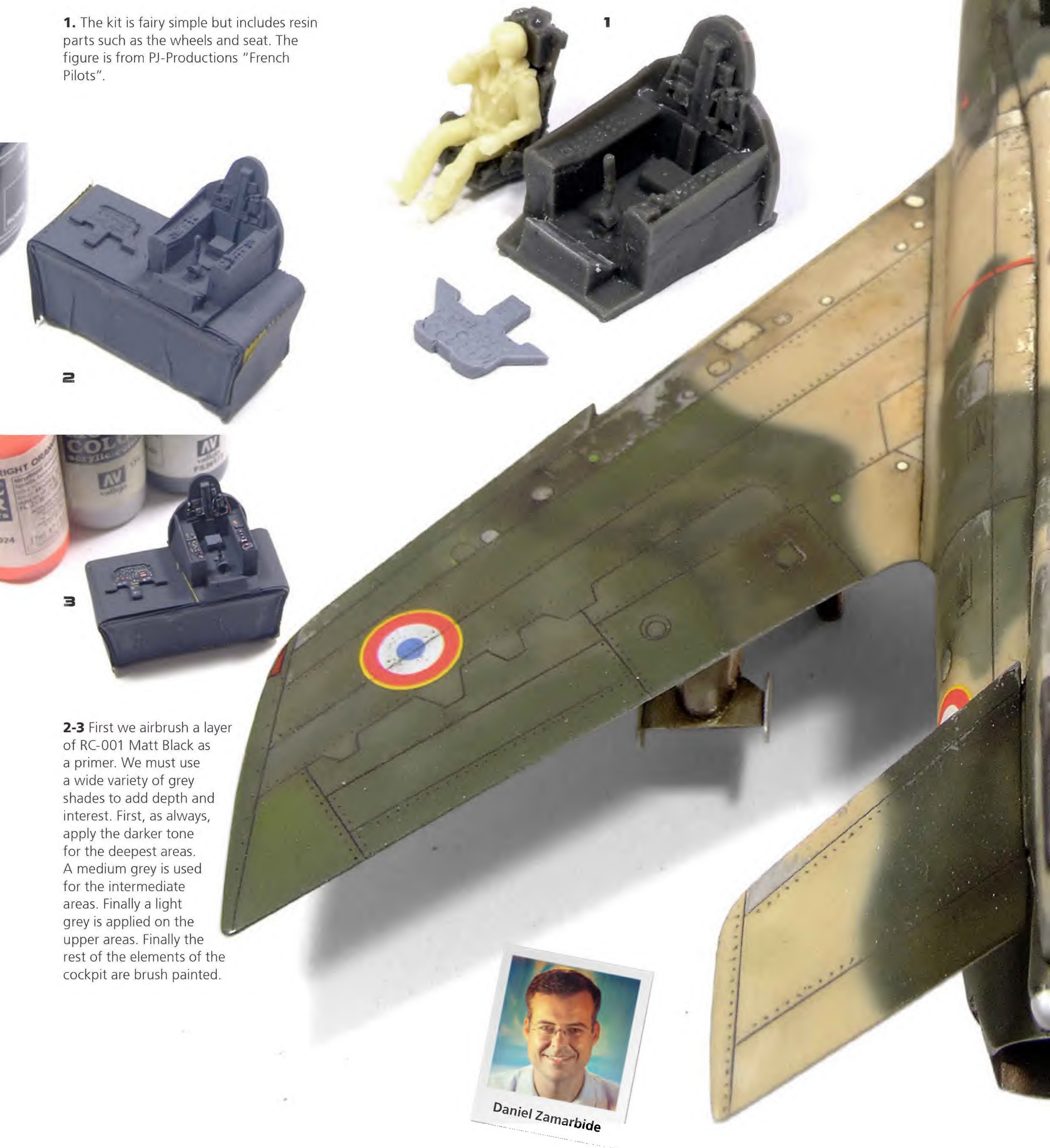


The Super Mystère is the direct descendant of the first saga of French fighters having the Ouragan as its ancestors along with the Mystere. In a few years the French industry evolved with fighters of great capacity and above all, of great beauty. Super Mystere was the final model of that original family of Gallic fighters that was later replaced by the most mythical fighter aircraft of the Mirage family. The AZ Model's kit is very simple, has a very acceptable detailing for the type of model, as it just consists of a very few pieces, simple fitting but with coarse unions

(without male-female) although the kit includes resin pieces like wheels, ejection seat and cockpit (a huge improvement for the kit). The fitting is good, but I recommend doing it little by little, that is, first glue the front area of the fuselage and once is dry, gradually fix the rest of the fuselage to bring its full length into place. This technique, although more slow, will avoid us long sessions of sanding.

Without a doubt, it is a small kit, easy and fun.

1. The kit is fairly simple but includes resin parts such as the wheels and seat. The figure is from PJ-Productions "French Pilots".



2-3 First we airbrush a layer of RC-001 Matt Black as a primer. We must use a wide variety of grey shades to add depth and interest. First, as always, apply the darker tone for the deepest areas. A medium grey is used for the intermediate areas. Finally a light grey is applied on the upper areas. Finally the rest of the elements of the cockpit are brush painted.

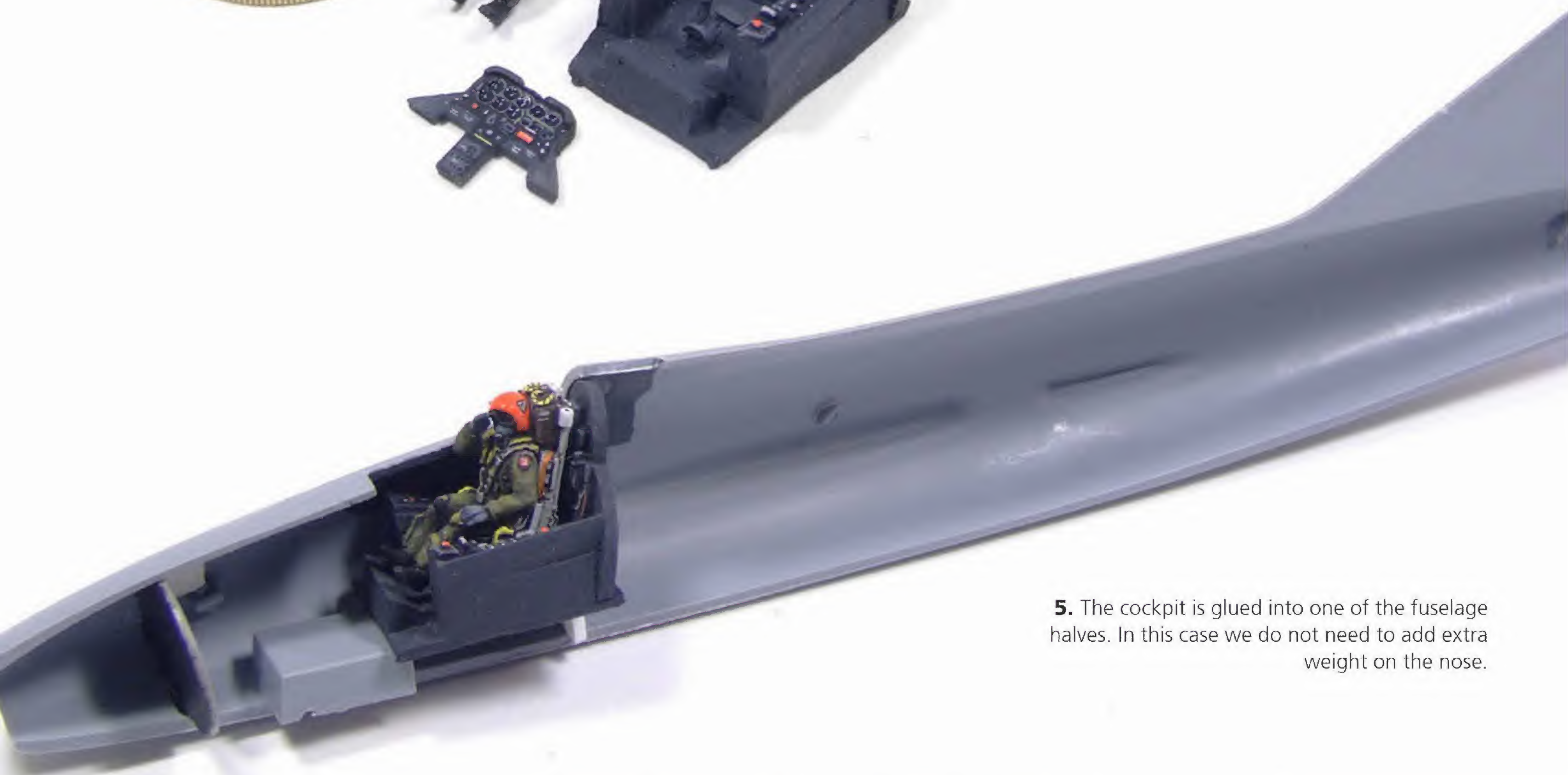


1/72 AZ MODEL

SUPER MYSTÈRE



4. Overall look of the cockpit including the pilot.



5. The cockpit is glued into one of the fuselage halves. In this case we do not need to add extra weight on the nose.



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6. The fitting and building of the model is quite easy but must be done little by little studying each step. The missing panel lines are then engraved again.

7. The wheel bays and cockpit are masked. Then we can apply a layer of RC-001 matt black over the windscreen

8. Always, if we are trying to paint a camo with different colors is important to start with the lighter tone, in this case RC-254.

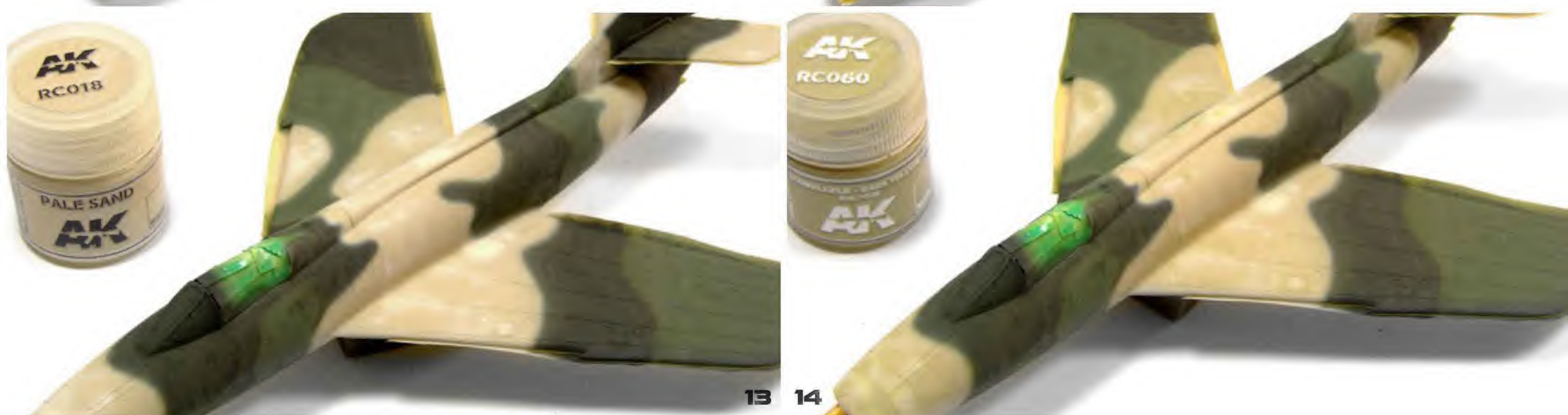


9. It's advisable to draw with the help of a pencil the camo shape, especially in the upper areas.

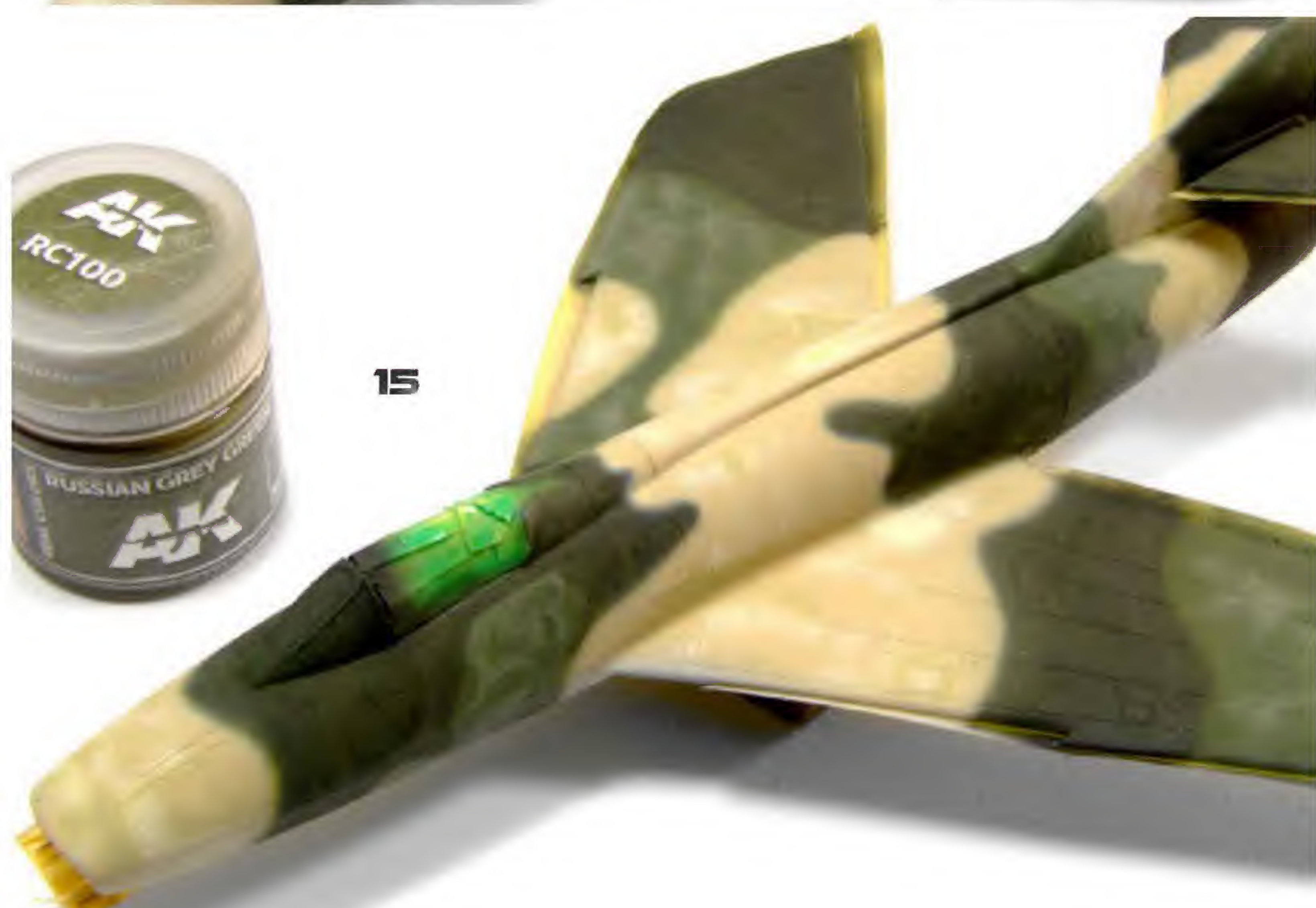
10. RC-079 sand tone is then airbrushed.



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11. Then its time to apply the green tone RC-042.

12. The darker tone is a mix of RC-037 (80%) and RC-001 Matt Black (20%).

13. Once the main camo is applied we can airbrush some highlights on the sand tone using RC-018.

14. RC-060 is perfect to add depth on this tone.

15. RC-100 is a perfect match for the highlights in the green patches.



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16. RC-023 is also used to add volume on the dark green patches.

17. Random areas were covered with RC-024 trying to integrate the whole surface and at the same time as a first weathering step.

18. The complete range of Real Colors paints used to paint the basecoat, camo, highlights and effects. Now the surface is ready for the real weathering.

19. Then we use a graphite 0.3 HB pencil to simulate the panel lines and add depth to the surface.





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20. The overall look of the model painted with matt paints. These type of paints and finishes are perfect if you want to use watercolor pencils.

21. Then a watercolor silver pencil helps to add the tiny metallic scratches along the surface but focusing on the edges of the wings and cockpit.

22. Again, this time using a green pencil, we simulate wear&tear on the green areas.

23. Overall look of the model with all the effects done with the weathering pencils.

24. The surface was then sealed with Gauzy (green label).



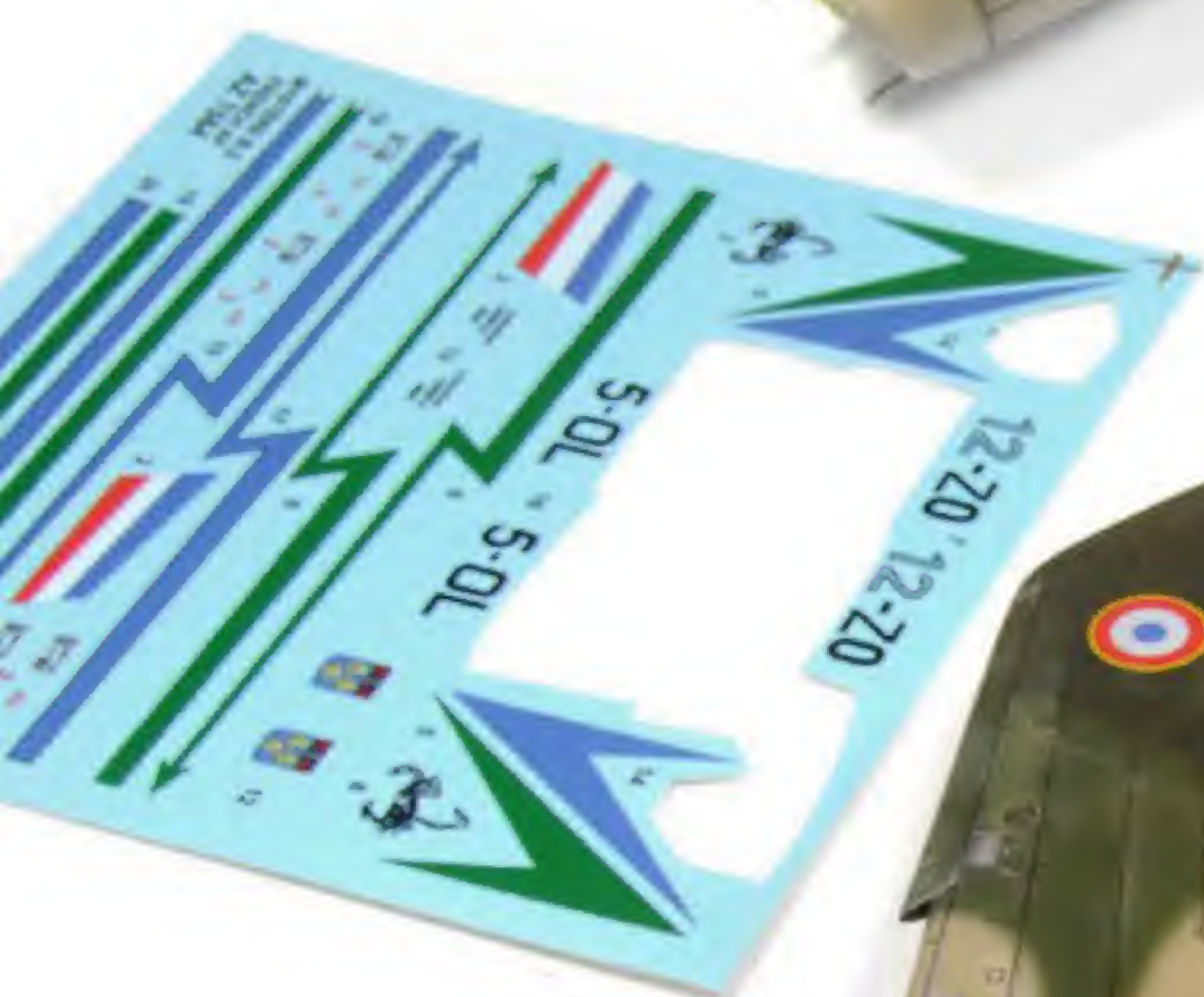
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25. Once the Gauzy is dry we apply a dark wash on the panel lines and details using Mig Productions products.

26. After around 15 to 30 seconds we remove the excess with a soft cloth.

27. Some Abteilung502 oils were used to add more chromatic richness.

28. The decals included in the kit are of good quality and easy to apply.



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29. Time to seal the surface with a layer of Ultra Matt varnish.

30. When we remove the masks we have to touch up some minor damage.

31. The nose of the model has a myriad of effects such as panel lines using a pencil, washes, watercolor pencils, oils...

32. The kit doesn't include the fuel tanks so we must scratch build them.

33. Model finished and ready for the final assembly.



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SUPER MYSTÈRE





Supersonic Mach 2 multipurpose fighter. It was the spine of the French defense system for many years, simple, reliable and with high performance. When we planned to build the Dassault Mirage III-CJ of French manufacture for this issue, one of the most emblematic aircraft in the history of aviation, I could not stop thinking about the Israelian Air Force (IAF) and the number of air battles they carried out in the different conflicts in which they were to participate, producing severe casualties to their enemies in these air battles. These aircrafts achieved 13 enemy casualties, 7 MiG 21, 2 MiG 17, 1 MiG 19, 1 Il-14, 1 Su-7 and AS-5 Kelt missile of Russian manufacture.

The scheme that we decided to represent belongs to the Yom Kippur war, where in addition to the characteristic colorful tricolor camouflage of the IAF it also shows off those striking triangles in yellow and black that were painted during the conflict to avoid friendly fire.



1/48 HOBBYBOSS

Airplanes operating in desert areas, due to inclement weather, allow the modeler to increase the wear and tear and effects that make the work to be done very interesting. Real Color set n ° 51 (RC-S051) designed for these aircrafts is very accurate. The HobbyBoss kit is very good considering that it is an old mold. The assembly is enjoyable and with some improvements we can achieve a more than satisfactory result.





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1. The kit was improved with some after market as the wheel bays, wheels and cockpit are not as accurate as they could be.
2. The S.B.S Model detailing set is perfect to improve certain areas although we need to test fit the cockpit.
3. AK-178 matt black primer was airbrushed , applying some highlights with AK-720 Rubber Tyres and AK-2052.



4



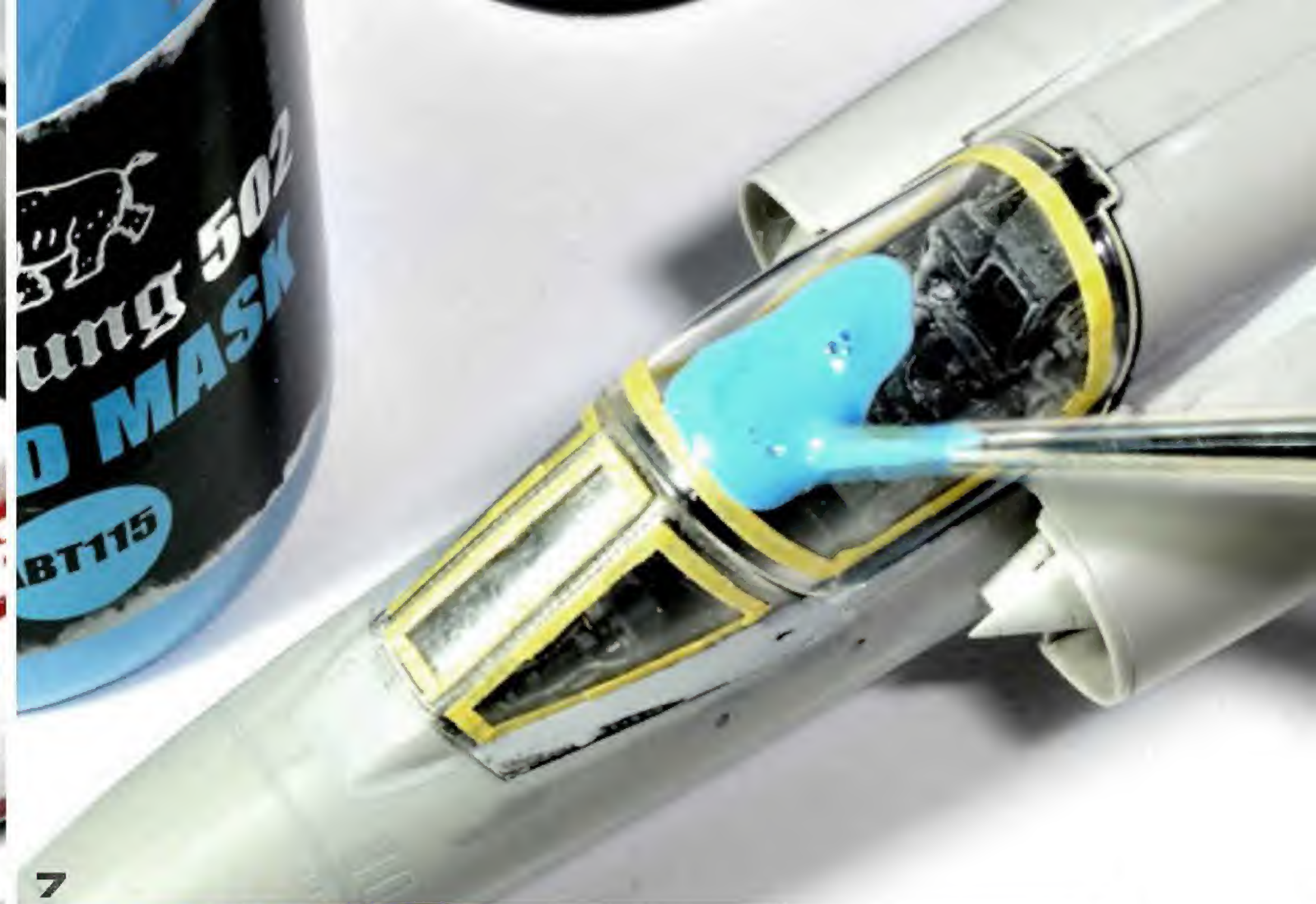
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4. The surface was then sealed with RC-502 Gloss varnish adding some dust traces with Abtp-037 Gulf War pigment. The seat was weathered with AK-2071 Dark Brown panel liner to add more contrast. Finally it was varnished with AK-183 Ultra Matte and AK-191 Satin Varnish.

5. AK-757 Micro filler was applied on the wheel bays and then covered with a solid coat of AK-481 Xtreme Metal Polished Aluminium. Then we applied a dark wash with AK-2029 Landing Gear and finally a layer of AK-191 Satin varnish.



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6. We need to use acrylic filler to fill in the gaps . This filler is acrylic so can be dissolved with water.

7. Abt-115 liquid mask is perfect for masking the canopy. We also used Tamiya masking tape.

8. The rear wheel bays are so deep so we applied a couple of layers of

liquid mask while in the front one we used a piece of sponge and tape.

9. A few layers of AK-178 black primer diluted with acrylic thinner AK-712 were applied with an airbrush.

10. Some random highlights were applied airbrushing RC-004 matt white diluted with RC-702 thinner. Some hatches and areas were also painted.

11. Now we apply RC-226, the lighter camo tone.



12. After masking the surface with thin pieces of tape we can airbrush the light green tone RC-232. Try not to cover the previous work done.



13. Repeat the process with RC-225 brown tone.



14. This paint is very thin but we can add a stainless steel ball into the container to mix the paint properly.



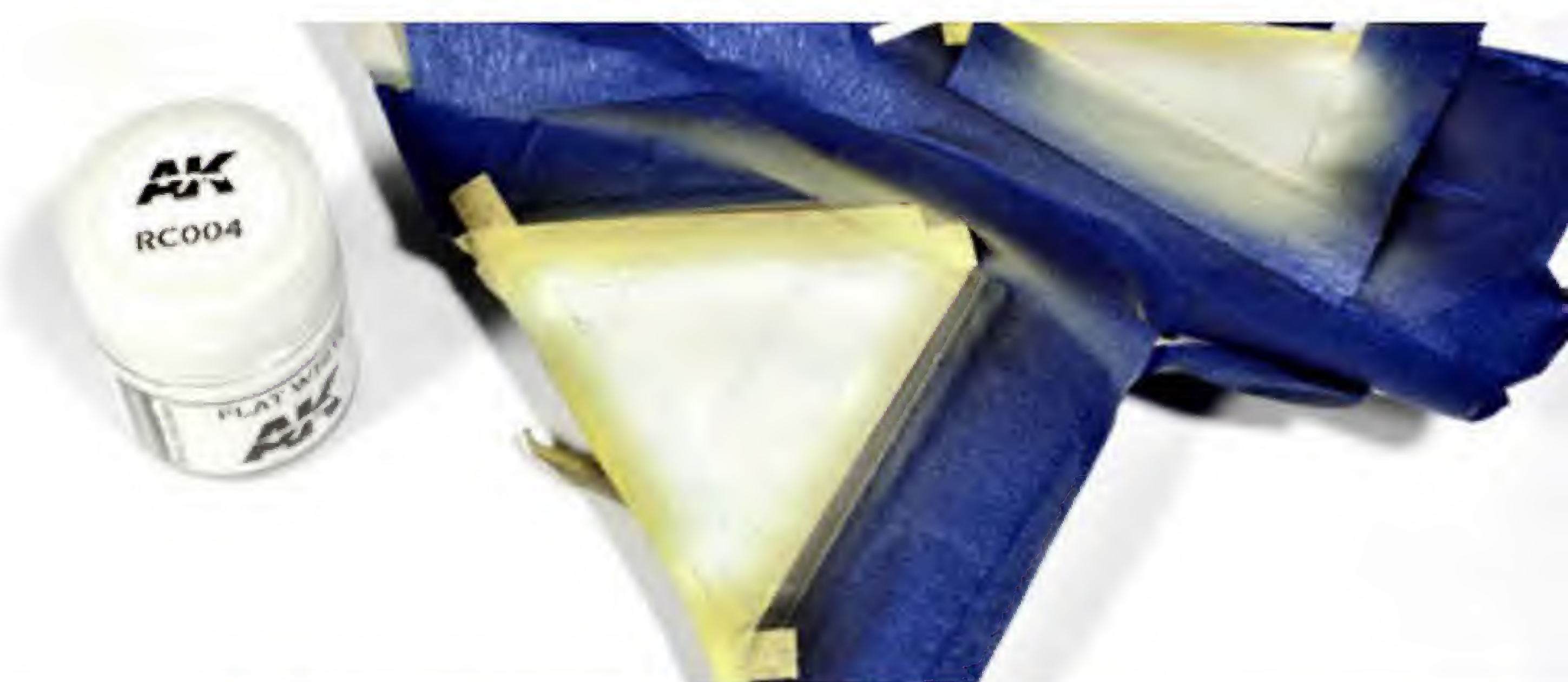
15. The underside was painted with RC-241 light grey in thin layers: This color is available in the RC-S051 set.



16. Several thin layers of RC-502 gloss varnish helps to seal the surface. Time for the decals.



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17. The large yellow and black triangles were painted with the help of several masks. First we airbrush RC-001 matt black.

18. Using Tamiya masking tape to delimitate the area. Airbrush RC-004 matt white.

19. Finally we apply the yellow tone, RC-004.

20. The decals provided in the kit look good but this type of work is even better.



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21. The rear was also painted with RC-004 matt white using thin stripes of Tamiya masking tape and the decal as a pattern.

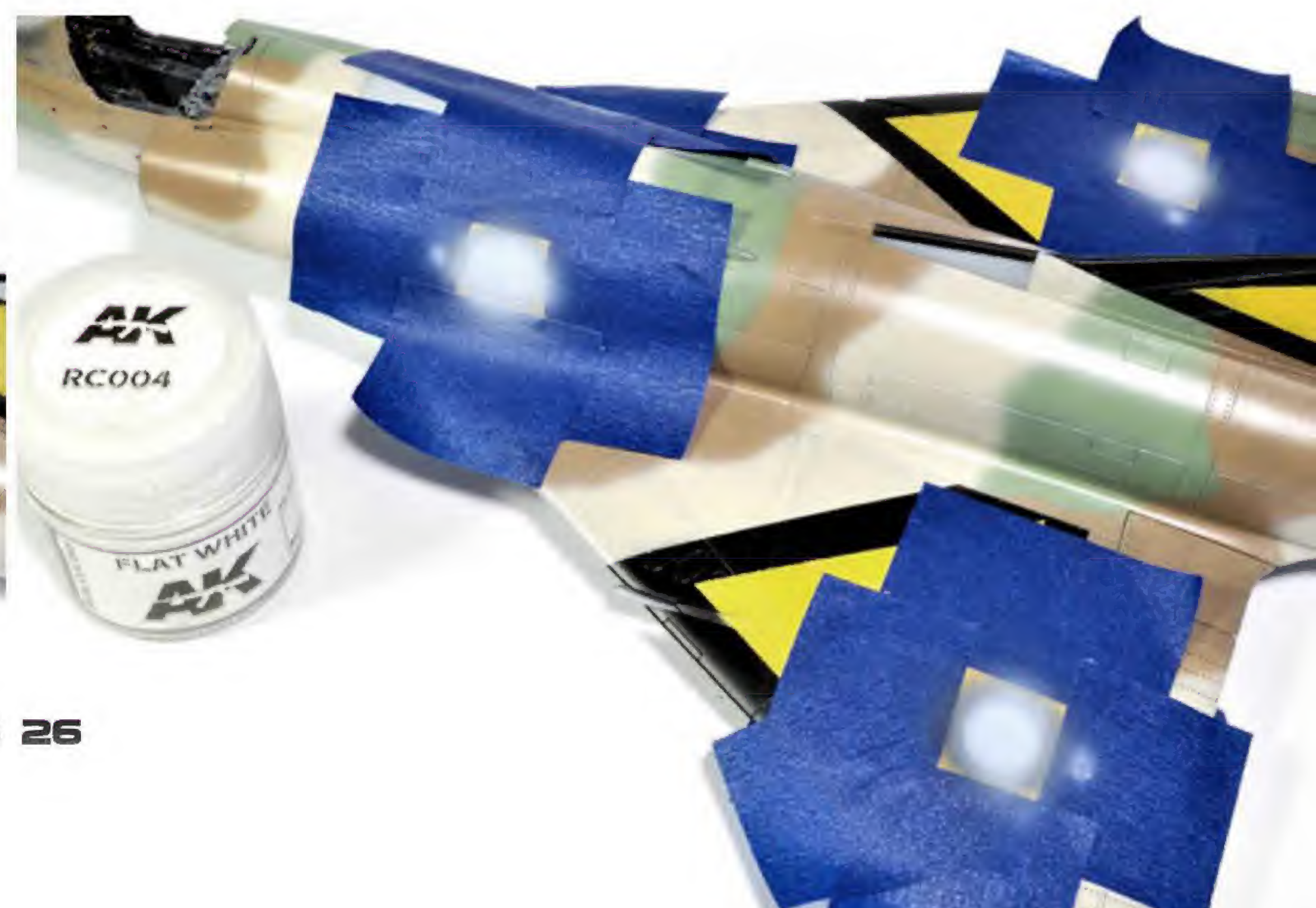
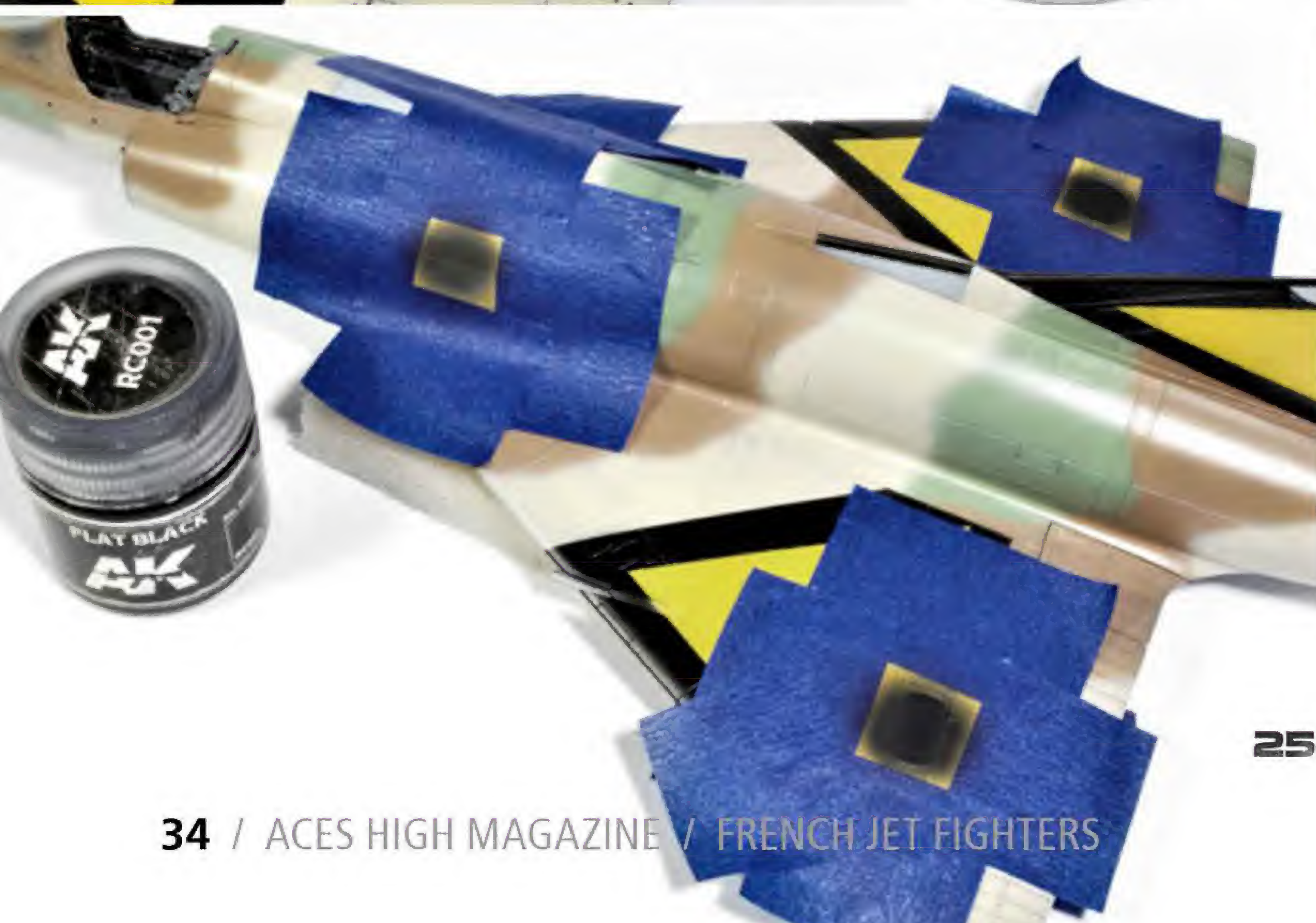
22. First airbrush the red tone RC-006.

23. Again use the decals as a pattern.

24. Use AK-2057 light grey to paint the covers of the antennas.

25. Before applying the decals with the stars we painted the circles in black with RC-001. This way we can avoid the silvering.

26. Then we can airbrush a layer of RC-004 white and seal the work with gloss varnish.



25 26



27. Apply a few drops of AK-582 Decal Adapter over the surface and place the decal. Then apply another coat of this product and let it dry.

28. When fully dry we apply AK 2071 dark brown panel liner, after 10-15 minutes we remove the excess with cloth or kitchen paper.

29. PK-2075 grey panelier was applied and once dry, after 10-15 minutes, we remove the excess with a cloth or kitchen paper.

30. We repeat the process in the underside using AK-2072 panelier for grey and blue. Seal the work done with another layer of RC-502 Gloss varnish.

31. Tiny scratches were added with AK-2151 sand and AK-2103 dark brown.



32. After the panelling we can add some highlights to define the work done. Mix RC-004 and the base color with a 50% ratio all diluted with RC-702.





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33. Now its time to increase the weathering effects such as the streaks of the air brake with AK-2033, blending with a brush.

34. Another nice effects can be done applying a dark wash AK-2033 around the main hatches imitating accumulated grime and dirt. Blend the color with a soft brush.

35. The wheels received a coat of AK-757 black microfiller, then covered with a layer of Xtreme Metal AK-481polished aluminium. Finally a small amount of Gulf War Abtp-037 pigment was applied. The rim was varnished in satin while the tires in matt AK-183.

36. Airbrush the landing gear with Xtreme Metal AK-477 Chrome and gloss varnish RC-502. A wash with AK-2029 helps to add depth and contrast. Seal with AK-191.

37. The fuel tanks were also painted with AK-481 Polished aluminium and a layer of RC-502 Gloss varnish. The rest of the weathering was done with AK-2033 Engine wash, AK-2033 and AK-045.





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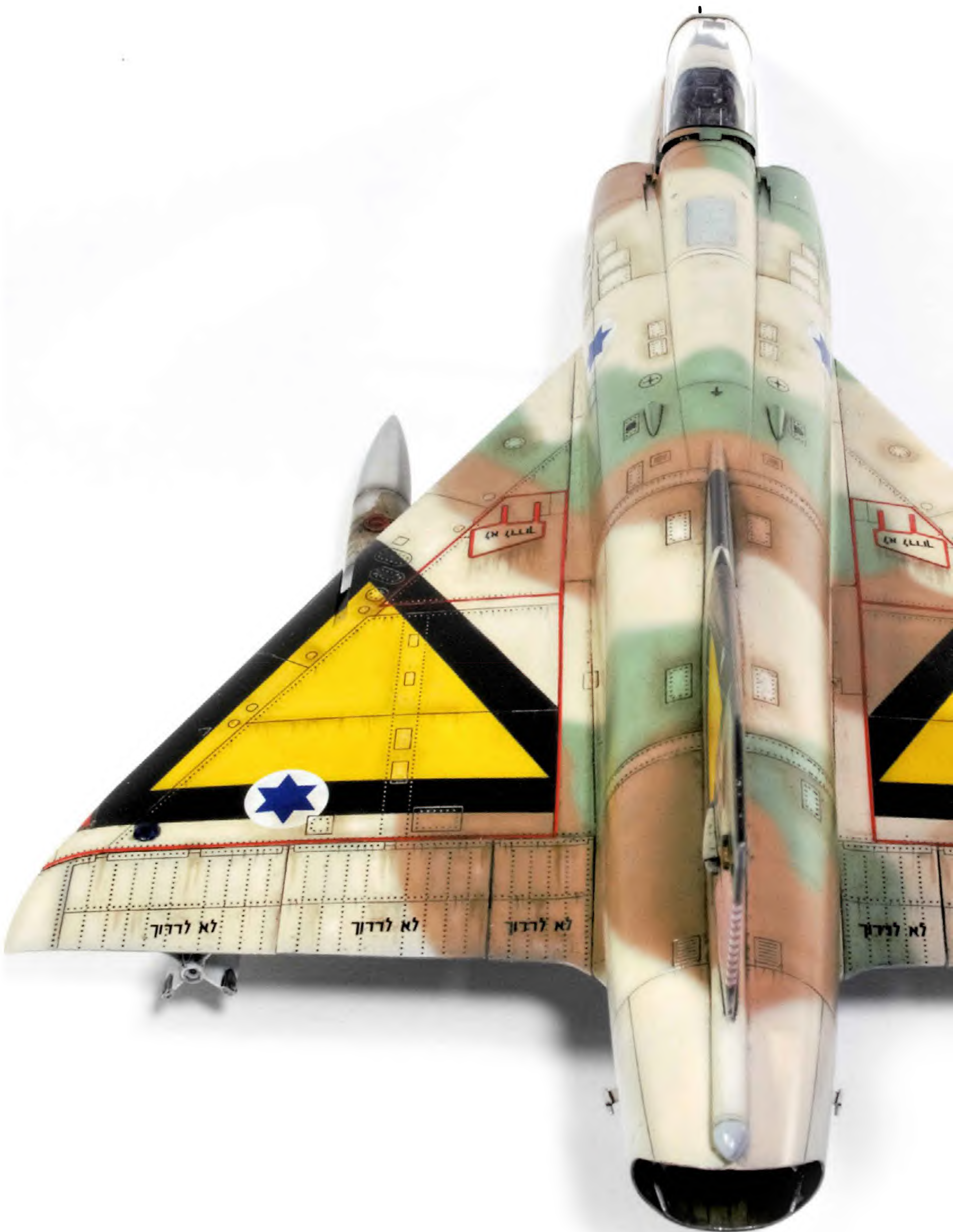
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38. The missiles were painted with RC-004 white and RC-001 black sealed with RC-502 Gloss varnish. True Metal AK-461 Gun metal and AK-458 Silver were used to paint the rest of details. Dirt and grime was imitated with AK-2033 and AK-045 washes.

39. The signal lights were brush painted with clear colors, RC-503 red diluted with RC-702 thinner.

40. The same process was done with RC-505 clear green.









Juan A. Alfaro

1/48 KINETIC

Another mighty French fighter was the Dassault Mirage 2000, designed in the late 1970s, as light fighter based on the Mirage III. We decide to use Kinetic K48032 kit, Wolfpack

Ref. WP48150 resin cockpit, Aires ref. 4556 resin engine and finally the brass pitop tube Ref. AM-48031 from Air Master Series.

The model has many good things. The lower parts come very well detailed and accurate, The upper parts could be better, there are hatches that are not in the correct place and others are missing like the lights at the tips of the wings. The wheels bays on the wings are moulded without any detail. A nice inclusion is the position light of the drift included in clear

plastic, perfect to simulate it. The decal sheet from Cartograf is very good although a little short of indicative signs, IMHO.

The assembly instructions can be complemented by the Mirage 2000 UNDER THE SKIN booklet, very detailed and based on color pictures of this aircraft. it also includes some

more pages intended for other versions. The Mirage 2000 evolved to become in a successful multi-purpose plane with many developed variants, including the Mirage attack versions 2000 . The Dassault Mirage 2000N is a variant of the Mirage 2000 designed for nuclear attack. It belongs to the tactical nuclear French Air Force.



1

1. Wolfpack resin was used to improve the dual cockpit. This set included 17 resin parts, a PE fret and two clear films.

2. Close view of the resin part. The level of detailing is perfect such as the gears, seats and instrument panel.

3. We need to do some surgery to add the resin parts.



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4. Resin parts ready for painting.

5. Interior painted. We used a mix of Tamiya XF-64 and XF-2 highlighted with the same mix and a few drops of XF-2. The edges were outlined with a HB pencil. The work was sealed with XF-86 matt varnish. With a light grey tone from Model Color we apply a subtle dry brushing in the instrument panel to pop-up some details.

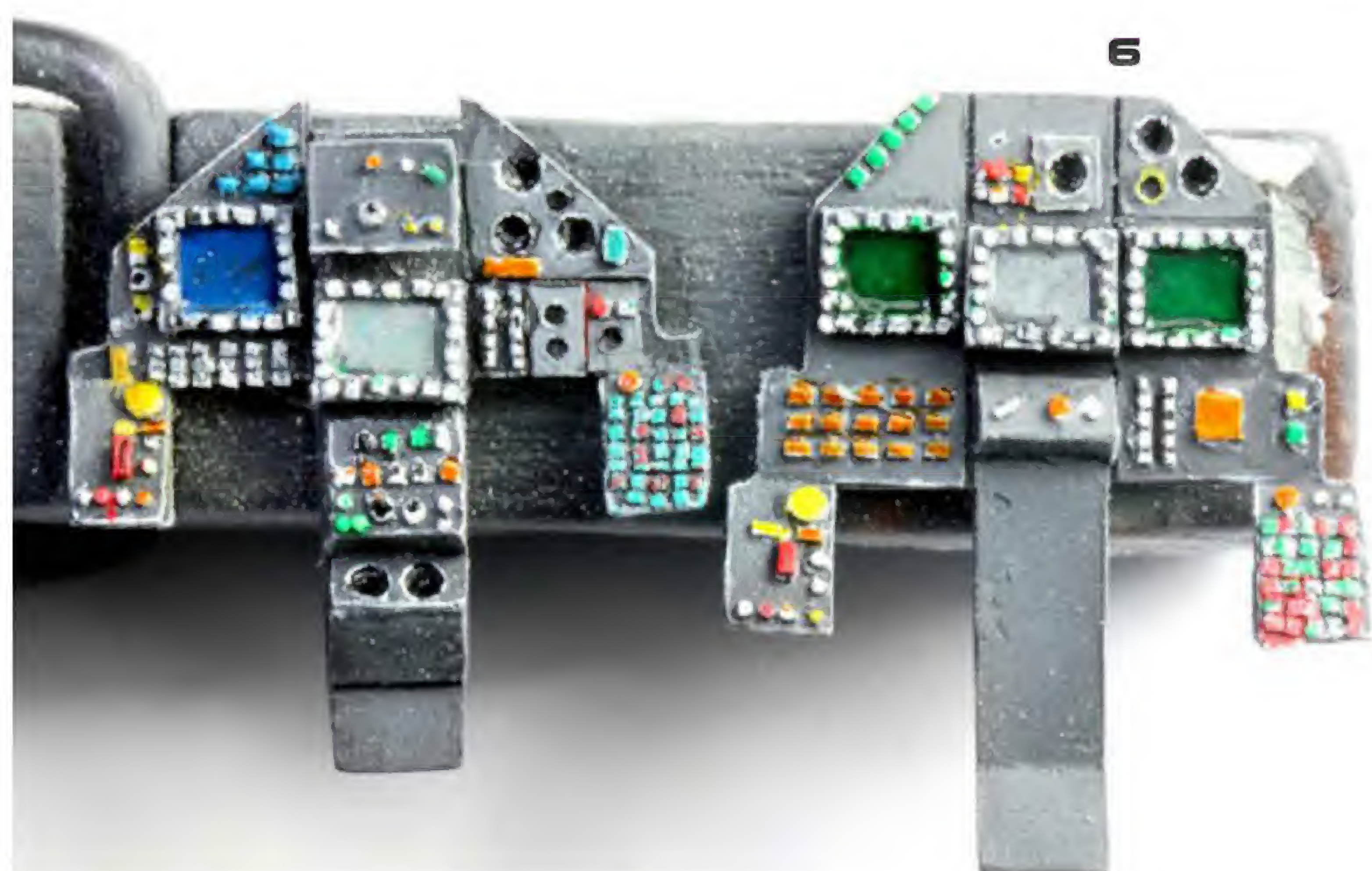
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6. View of both instrument panels painted with Model Color and Tamiya clear paints.

7. One of the two seats finished with Tamiya and Model Color paints and a layer of satin varnish.



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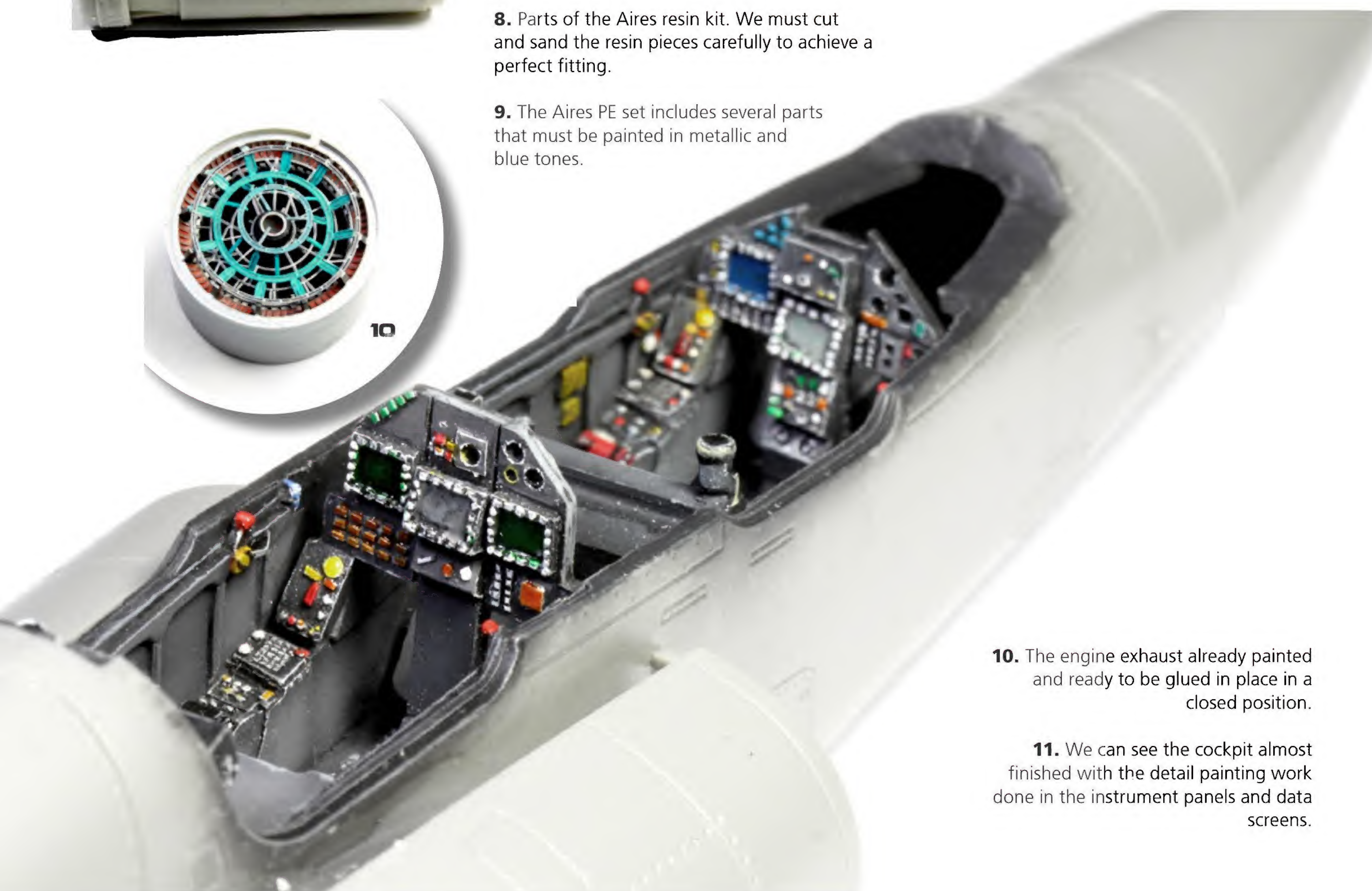


8. Parts of the Aires resin kit. We must cut and sand the resin pieces carefully to achieve a perfect fitting.

9. The Aires PE set includes several parts that must be painted in metallic and blue tones.



10



10. The engine exhaust already painted and ready to be glued in place in a closed position.

11. We can see the cockpit almost finished with the detail painting work done in the instrument panels and data screens.

12. Dual cockpit finished except the canopy.



13. Both cockpits are now masked off using Tamiya tape and masking fluid.



14

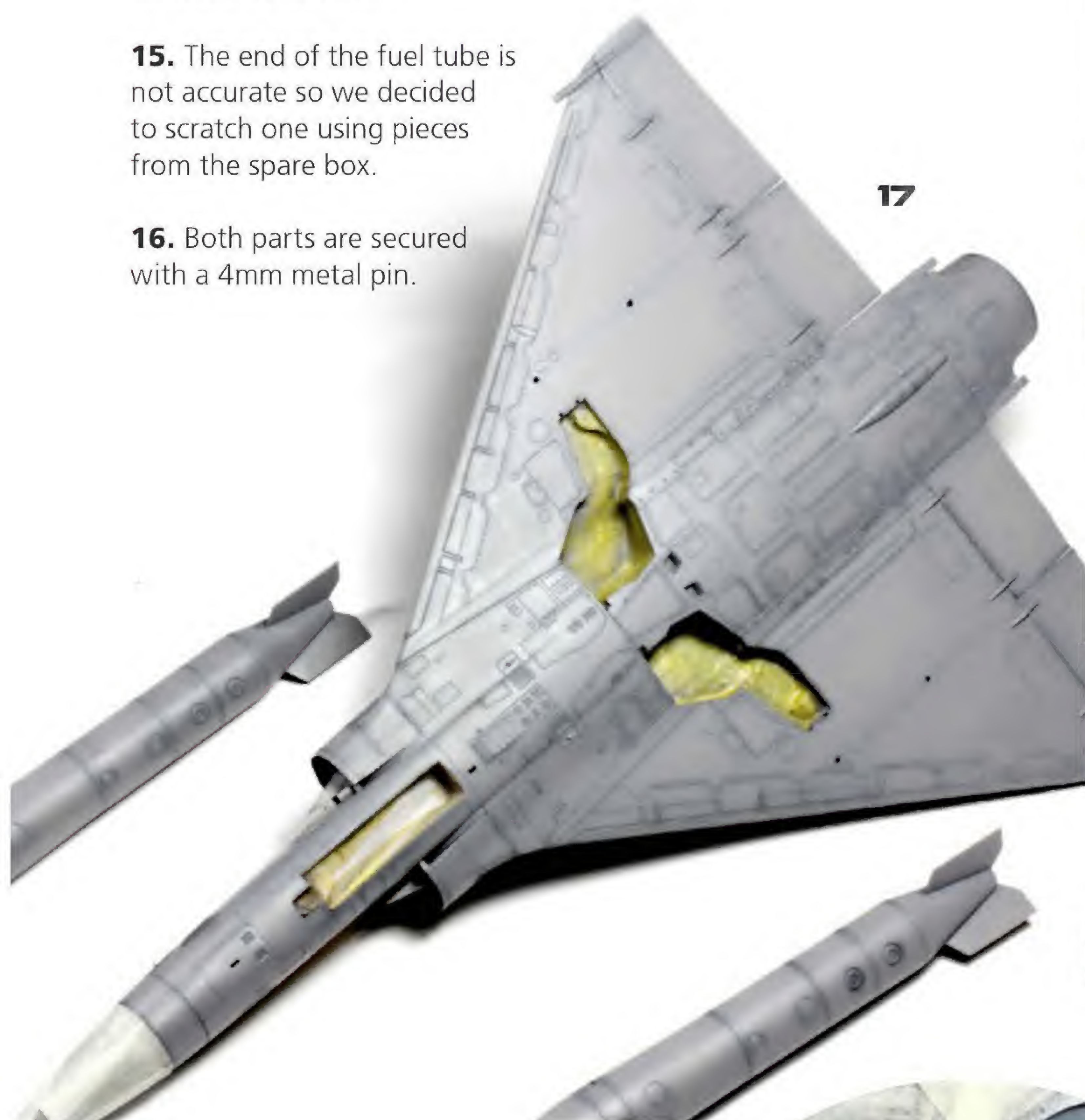
14. The fitting in the wing roots is not good enough so we need to add thin Evergreen stripes glued with Tamiya Extra Thin glue. Then we use Tamiya masking tape to mask the edges and fill in the gap with Ciano glue. Finally the surface was covered with a layer of putty. Once dry we can sand off the surface.

15. The end of the fuel tube is not accurate so we decided to scratch one using pieces from the spare box.

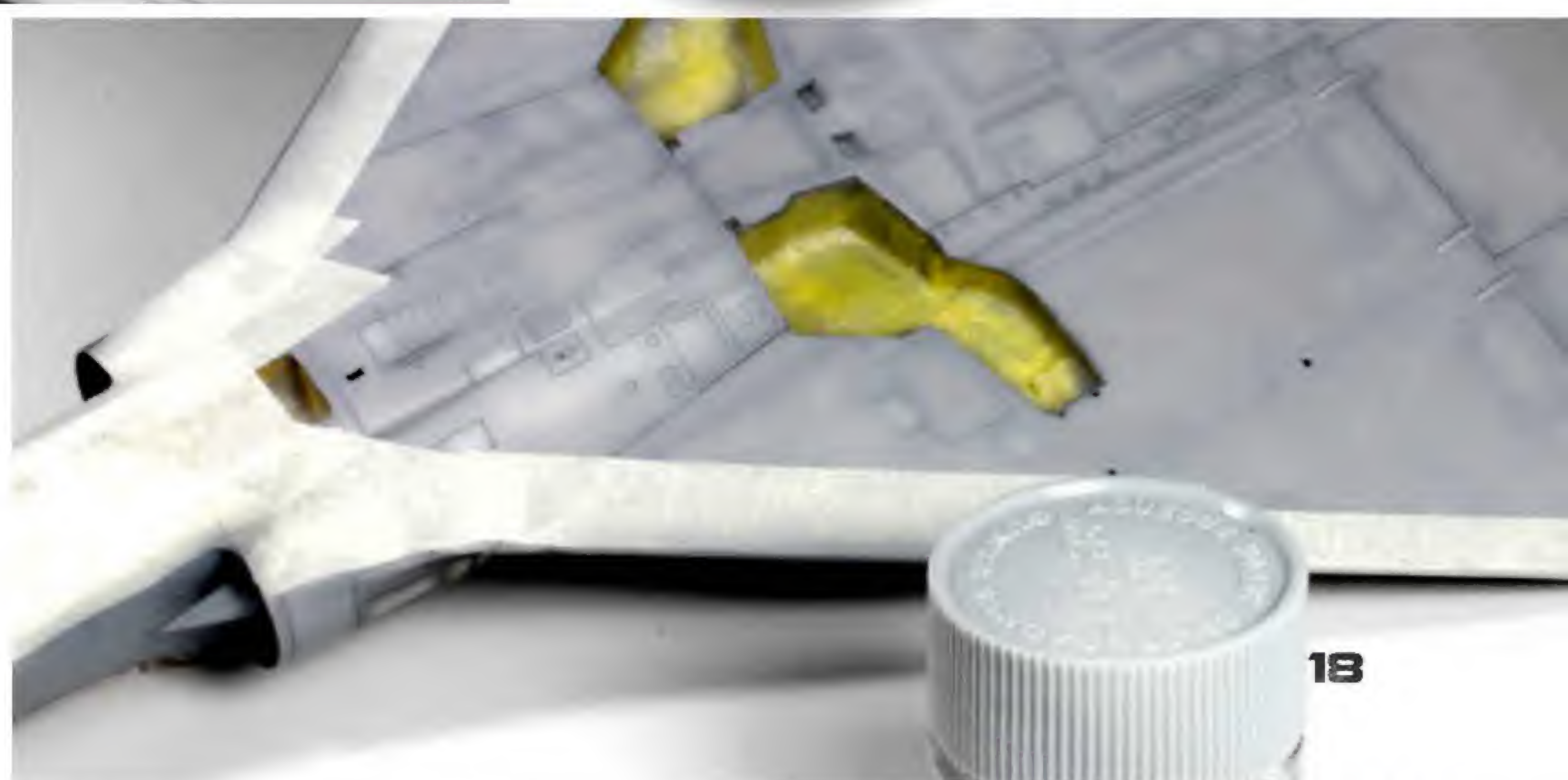
16. Both parts are secured with a 4mm metal pin.

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16



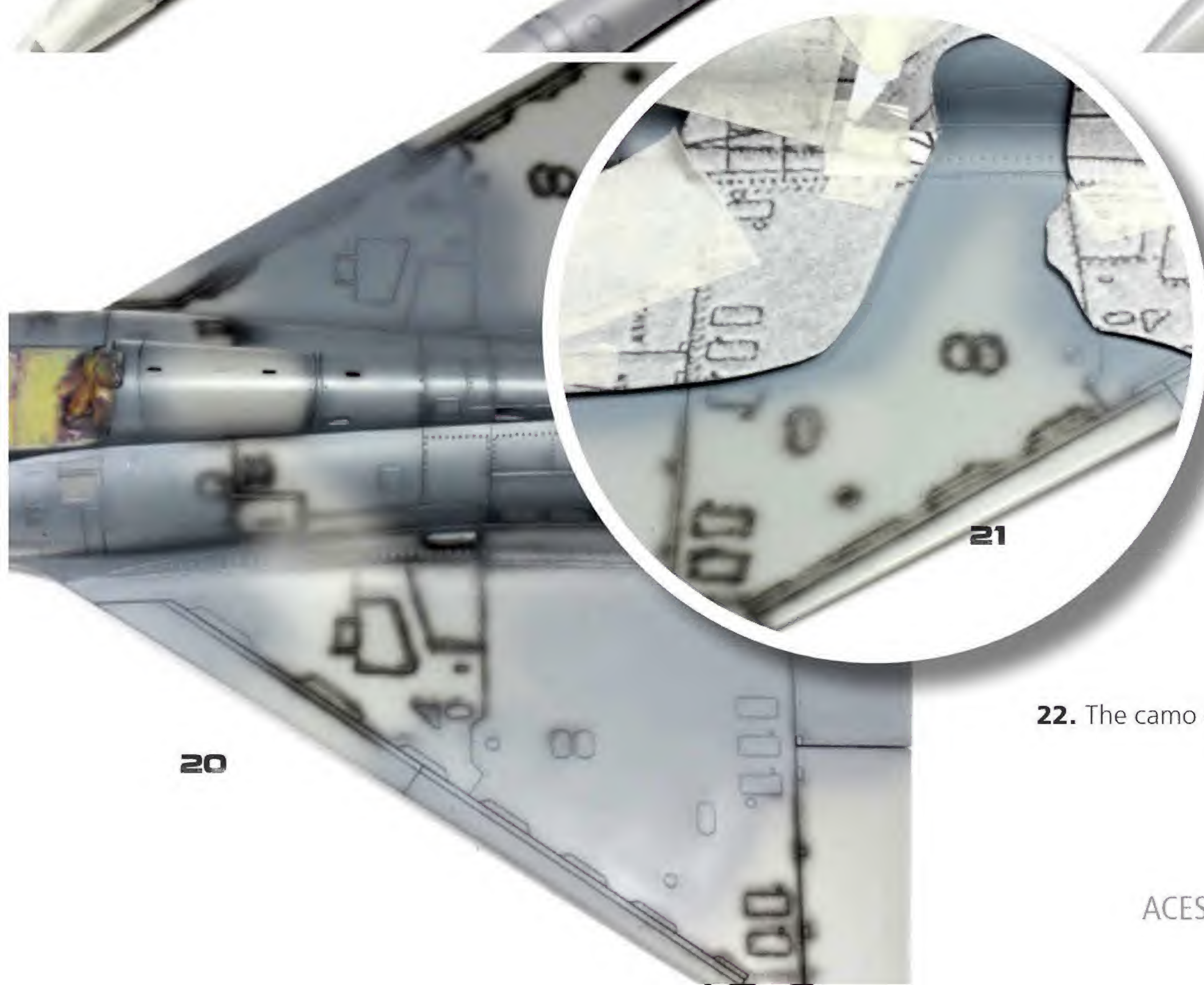
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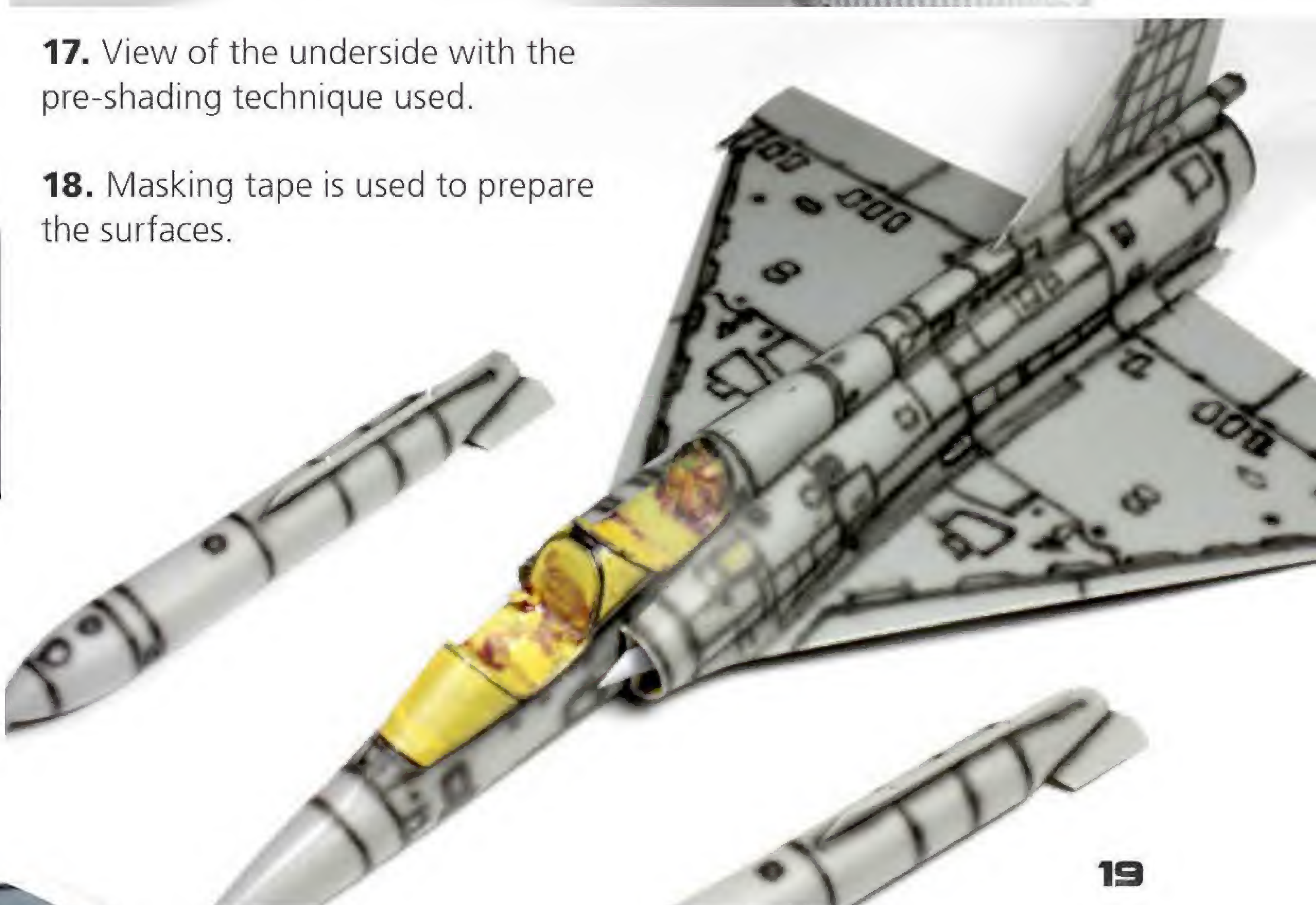
17. View of the underside with the pre-shading technique used.

18. Masking tape is used to prepare the surfaces.



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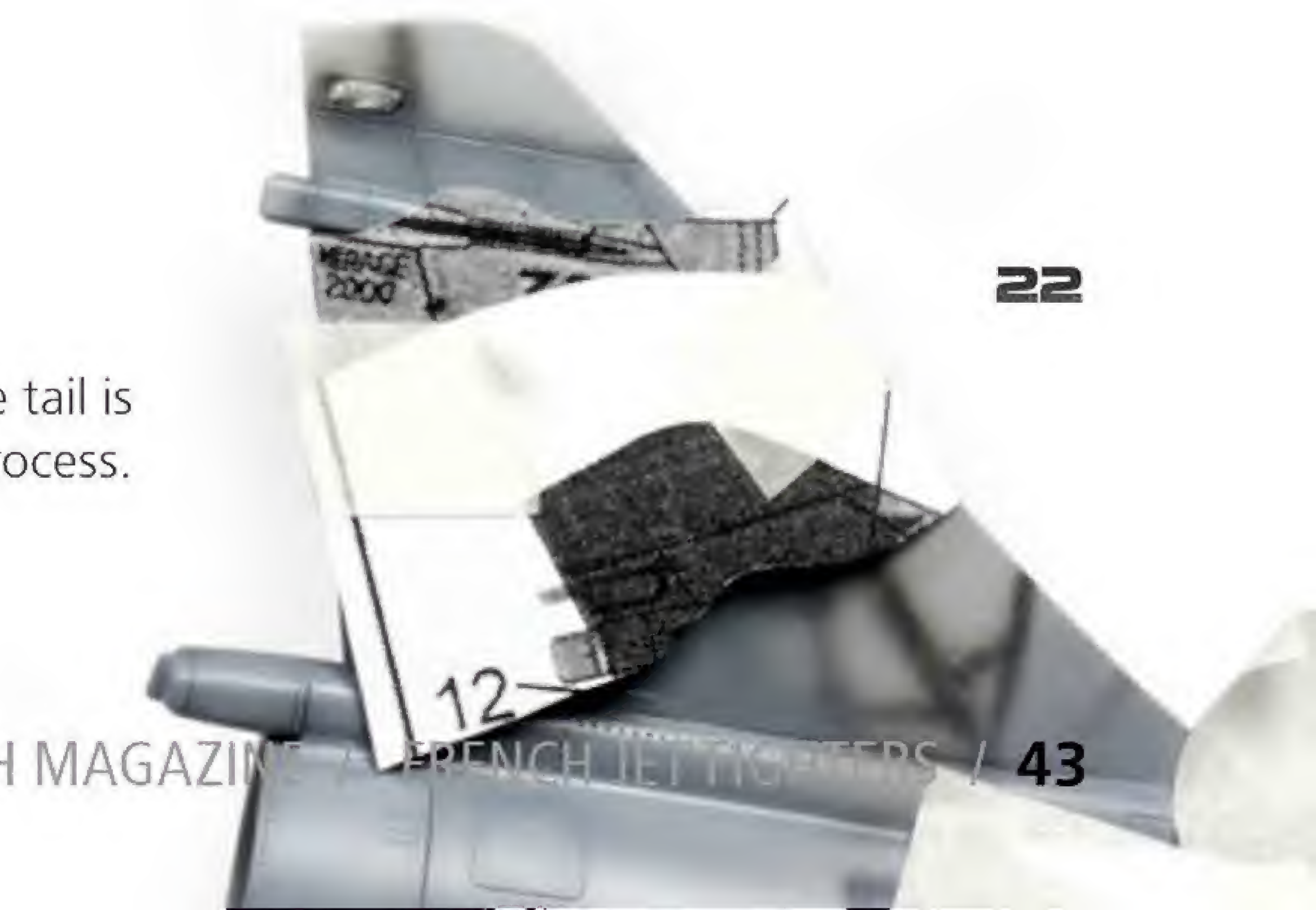


19

19. Preshading done in the surface of the model and fuel deposits.

20. The upper surfaces were also preshaded the same way.

21. A set of scale plans were reproduced in 1/48 scale and used to paint the camo pattern. Small balls of Blu Tack were used to fix the paper to the surface and leave some room between them. This way we can apply a soft edge camo.

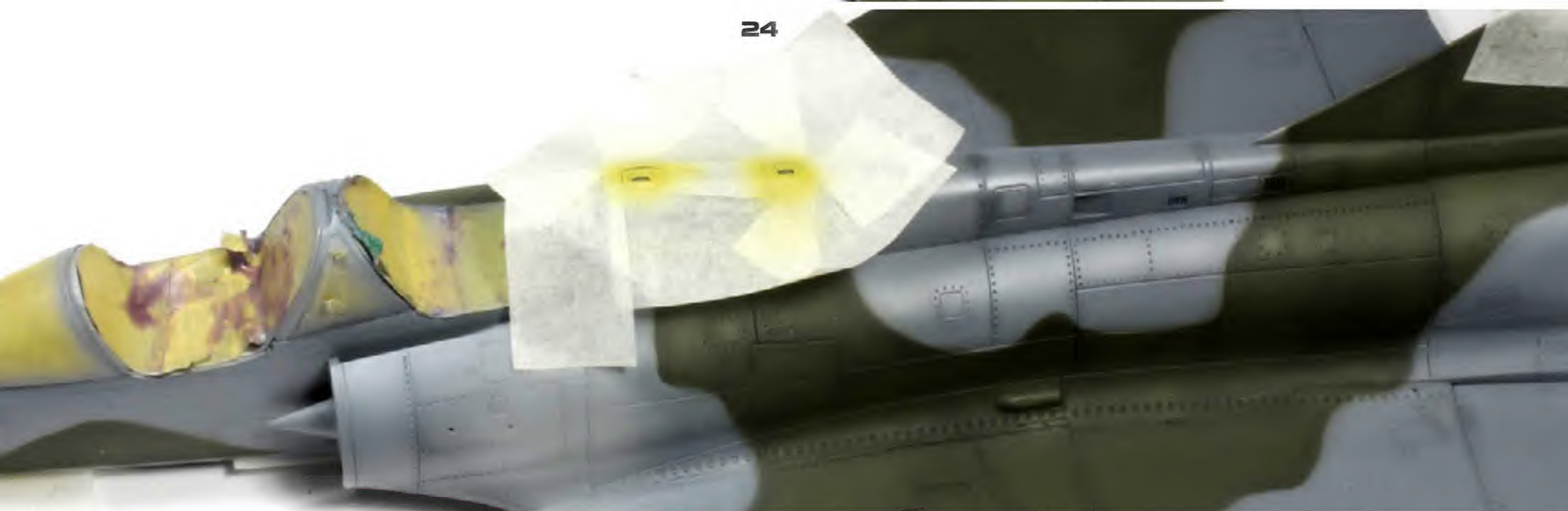


22

22. The camo on the tail is in process.



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23. Model painted except the black area of the nose. The central area of each panel was highlighted.

24. It's important to mask certain areas that will be painted in different colors/effects.

25. The panel lines of the upper areas of the wings were painted with Mig Productions Dark Wash.

26. The underside was defined with AK-2073. Both panel liners are perfect and specially designed for planes.



27. Model with all the elements painted and decals on.



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28. External fuel deposits with the masking tape applied.

29. Deposits painted with the green tone and still with the masking tape in place.

30. Deposits ready for the weathering.

31. Overall view.

32. Deposits finished with all the effects achieved.





33, Landing gear painted and ready to be glued.

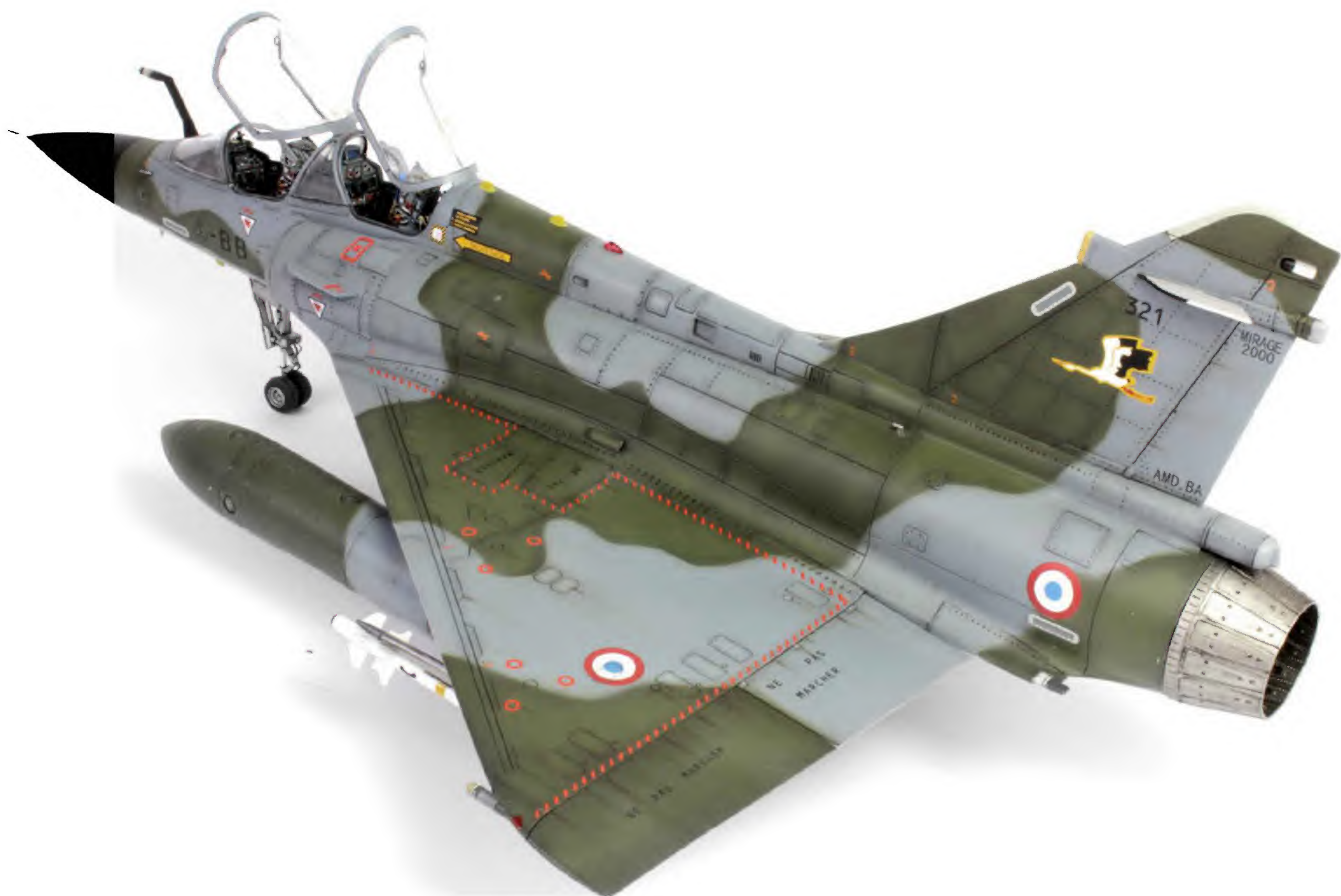
34. Front hatch in place.

35. View of the underside with the wheel bay hatches closed.

36. View of the cockpit.

36







REAL COLORS

1/48 KITTYHAWK MODELS

The Mirage F1 was an air superiority fighter with ground attack capability thanks to its electronic equipment and its inertial system. Designed and built by Dassault Aviation and powered by a turbojet engine SNECMA Atar. The version for this special issue of French fighters entered service under the C-14 denomination in the Spanish air force in 1975, at Base de the Llanos (Albacete) being assigned to 141 squadron, first of the newly created Wing 14. In clear allusion to the lands of La Mancha, the Mirage adopted a Quixote as an emblem. Its striking camouflage was known as "Lagarto" (Lizard), and given its longevity of service came to earn the nickname of "the grandmother", without a doubt we are before one of the most emblematic aircraft of the Spanish Air Force. To make this version, we used 1:48 scale Kitty Hawk kit, adding some improvements in the undercarriage and wheel bays, and replacing the decals for the Spanish Series. It is a good kit, well detailed, although the difficulties encountered in the fitting of some pieces such as the clear ones and the fuselage, makes it not suitable for inexperienced modelers.

The camouflage was painted using the new range of Real Colors Air lacquers, with a specific set for this camo.





1. Main parts of the cockpit with the PE details added. The ejection handle of the seat is made of thin wire. You can see the high level of detailing.

2. The cockpit base painted with RC-001 matt black and highlighted with RC-214 Light grey.

3. The rest of the details were brush painted with acrylics.



4. Cockpit finished. The dust and dirt was made applying a filter with buff colored oil paints. The floor received some scratches with a silver watercolor pencil from Prismacolor.

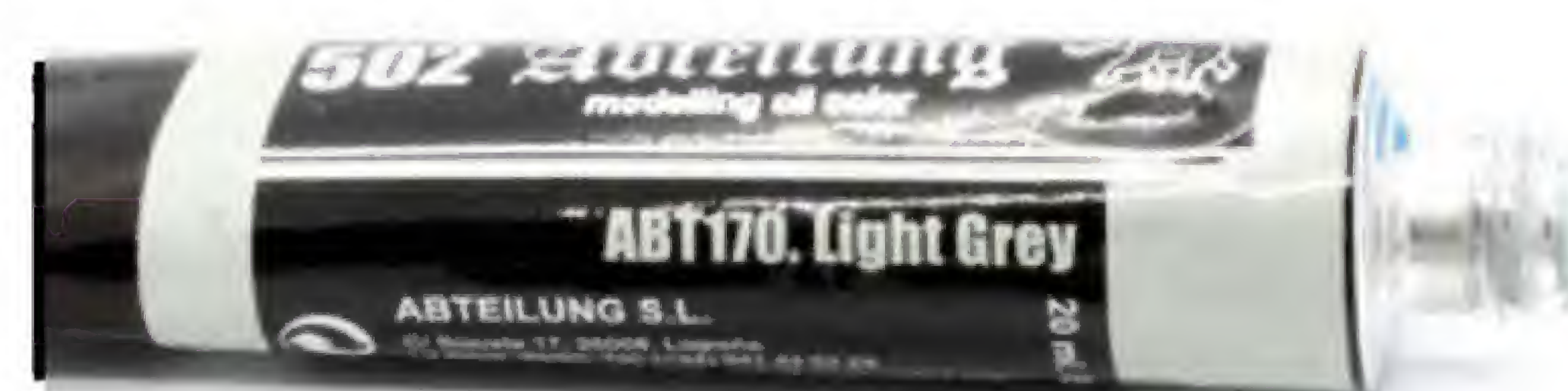


5. The interior area of the exhaust was painted with Xtreme Metal Jet Exhaust tone using the airbrush without any previous primer.



5

6. We tried to depict the typical burn out effect due the combustion so we used Light Grey oil from Abteilung502.



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7. The external area was painted with Xtreme Metal Stainless Steel.
8. Then we applied some effects with AK-669 Titanium, AK-487 Metallic Blue and AK-671 Metallic Smoke.
9. The previous work is sealed with a layer of Gauzy..
10. The details were outlined with AK-2072 panel liner removing the excess with a cotton bud moistened in thinner.
11. We need to use clamps to securer the fuselage whilst the glue sets.



12

12. The gaps between the two halves of the fuselage can be filled in with Mr. Surfacer and masking tape. The excess is carefully removed with acetone.



13

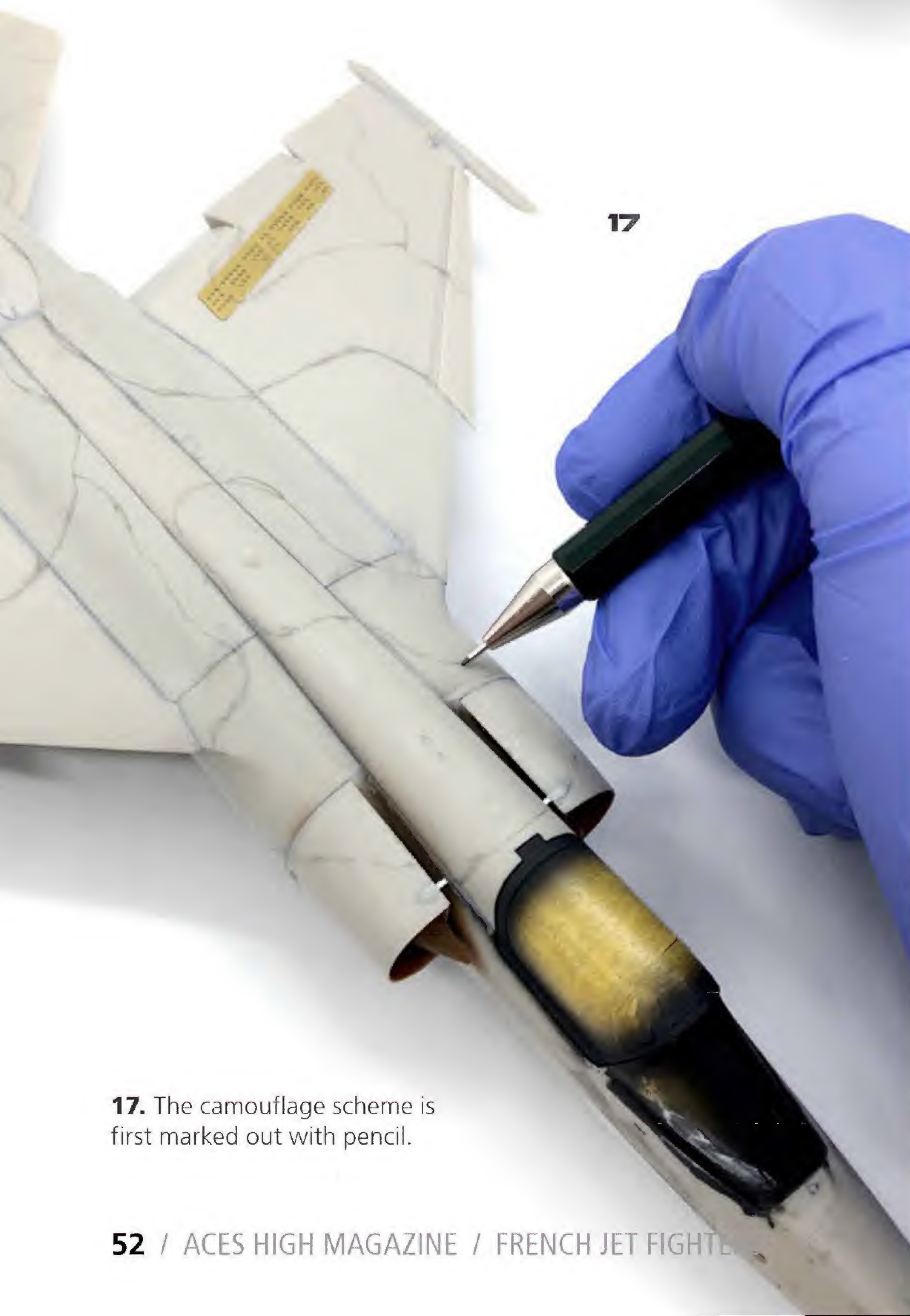
13. The wing roots also need some fine filling and sanding to achieve a nice looking model. Use acetone to remove the excess.



14. There is a large gap between the fuselage and the canopy, around 1mm, so we need to fill in with a mix of AK Putty and black acrylic paint.

15. The landing gear are very nice but lacks all the wiring, this was added using thin wire and painted with Xtreme Metal Aluminium.

16. The rubber color is a mix of black and flesh acrylic paint and a layer of Ultra Matt varnish. The hydraulic rod was painted with a Molotov pen. All were outlined with AK2072 panel liner.



17. The camouflage scheme is first marked out with pencil.



18. First we apply the lighter tone, RC223 Tan FS20400.

19. The second color is RC027 Forest Green FS34079.

20. RC224 Brown FS30140 is the last tone applied.



21. The nose was covered with a solid coat of RC001 Flat Black.



22. Highlights with RC212 Basaltgrau were then airbrushed.



23. Tan color was also highlighted adding RC004 white to RC223





24. The rest of the highlights are airbrushed adding RC223 to the base color.



25. The underside was painted with RC254 with some effects adding RC001 Flat Black.

26. San Andrés cross was easy to do with masking tape. First we airbrush the white base color.

27. Then the black cross.



26 27





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28. A tan acrylic tone was used to add scratches over the brown camo tone.

29. The rest of scratches were added using watercolor pencils.

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30. Before applying the decals we must airbrush a layer of Gauzy and seal the surface. This will help during the further decalling work.



31

31. The decals included in the kit are wrong for the Spanish version as all the stencils are written in French and English so we bought an specific set from Series Españolas.

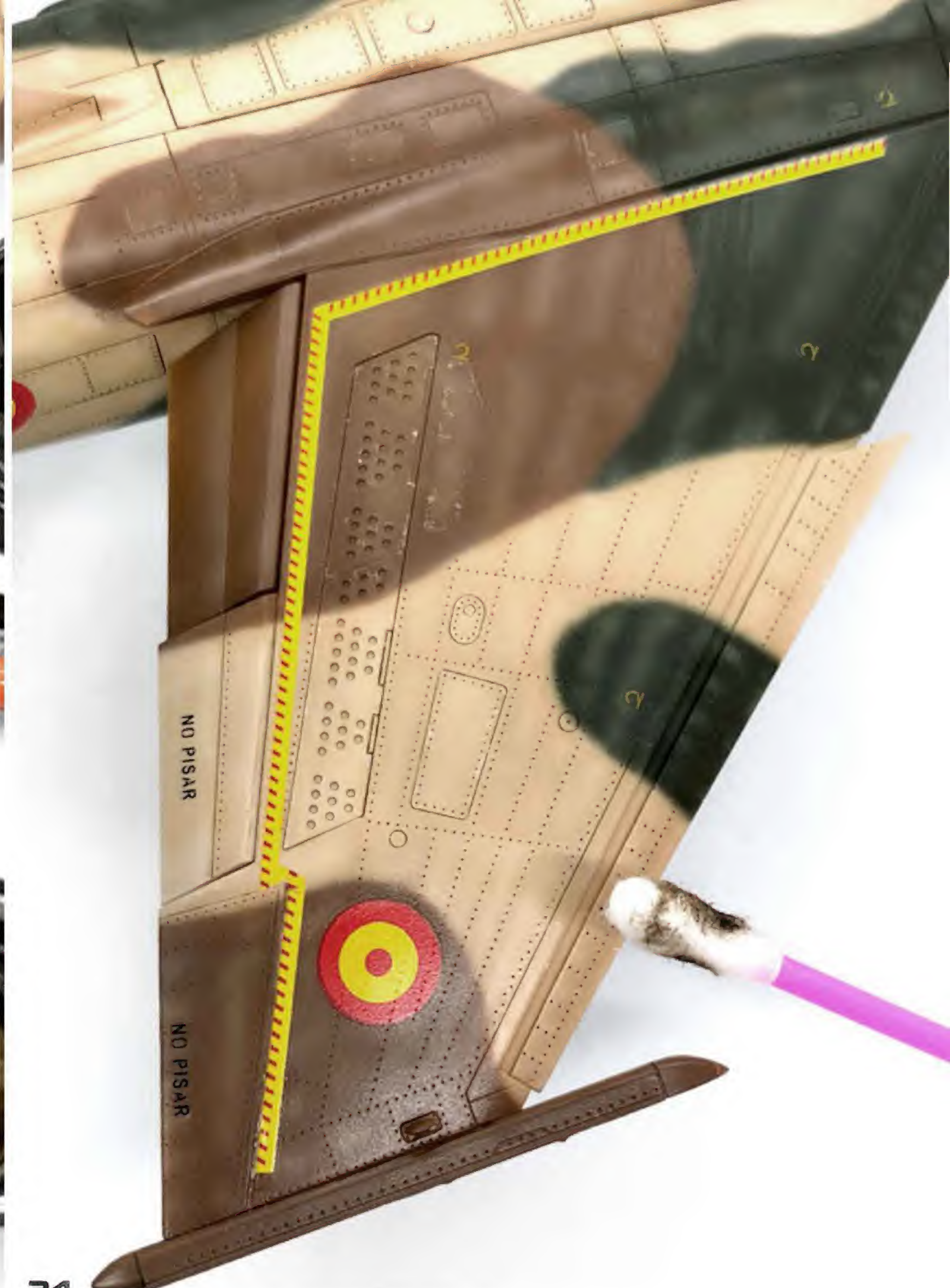


32

32. To achieve a perfect look with the decals is advisable to apply a drop of Micro Set before placing the decal and once dry use AK Decal Adapter.



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33. The panel lines were enhanced with AK2071 and AK2073 panel liners designed for this type of camo. The underside was weathered with a light grey tone.

34. The excess can be removed with a cotton bud following the air flow.

35. Overall look of the surface once the panelling work is finished.

36. Then we apply a layer of Matt varnish to prepare the surface for the further effects.

37. Fluid leaks are simulated with Sepia and Ocher oil tones. The grime around the air breaks is done with Mig Productions Dark Wash.

38. The same process can be applied in the upper wings to integrate the decals.

39. More contrast and depth can be done with a Dark Wash, mainly around the hatches and details of the wings.



MIRAGE F-1





1/48 Kittyhawk Models

The Etendard family of naval fighters was the first designed in France specifically for onboard carrier use with the first Etendard IV and IVP models being operated from the carriers Clemenceau and Foch. The Super Etendard is nothing more than a more modern development whose main feature is the inclusion of a radar in the nose as well as a much more modern weaponry system, used in combat by the Argentine Navy during the Falklands conflict where the conjunction of the plane with the anti-ship Exocet missile were used against ships of the powerful British Royal Navy. Later the French Aeronavale has used

them in conflicts such as the Balkan, Irak and Afghanistan and even today it remains in service together with its successor Rafale. The Kittyhawk model has a high level of detail with a complete armament as well as a wide range of attractive decorations like Argentinian, French and even Iraqi commemorative versions, as well as the normal combat versions. The excessive number of pieces forces us to check each stage of the assembly but does not require more work than any other complex model or brand in the market. Once built we have an interesting model, without a doubt, I recommend it.



1. The copit included in the kit is very nice and well detailed so we just need to add a resin seat.



2. The seat comes from an IAI Kfir (Wingman kit) but can be easily found in the marketplace.

3. The dry fitting of the pieces inside the fuselage is almost perfect.

4. First we airbrushed a layer of RC-001 Flat black.

5. The main details were painted with Vallejo 994 Dark Grey.





- 6.** Intermediate volumes were also painted with this color.
- 7.** Finally the wiring and upper details received a coat of light grey.
- 8.** The floor of the cockpit was scratched with a silver watercolor pencil.
- 9.** The initial weathering was done with washes and oils.
- 10.** The lower areas of the seat were painted with RC-001 Flat black.
- 11.** Then we can paint every single element in its color adding an outlining with black.
- 12.** The main highlights and shadows were done with oils.
- 13.** Seat finished with a combination of satin (metallic parts) and matt varnish (fabric).



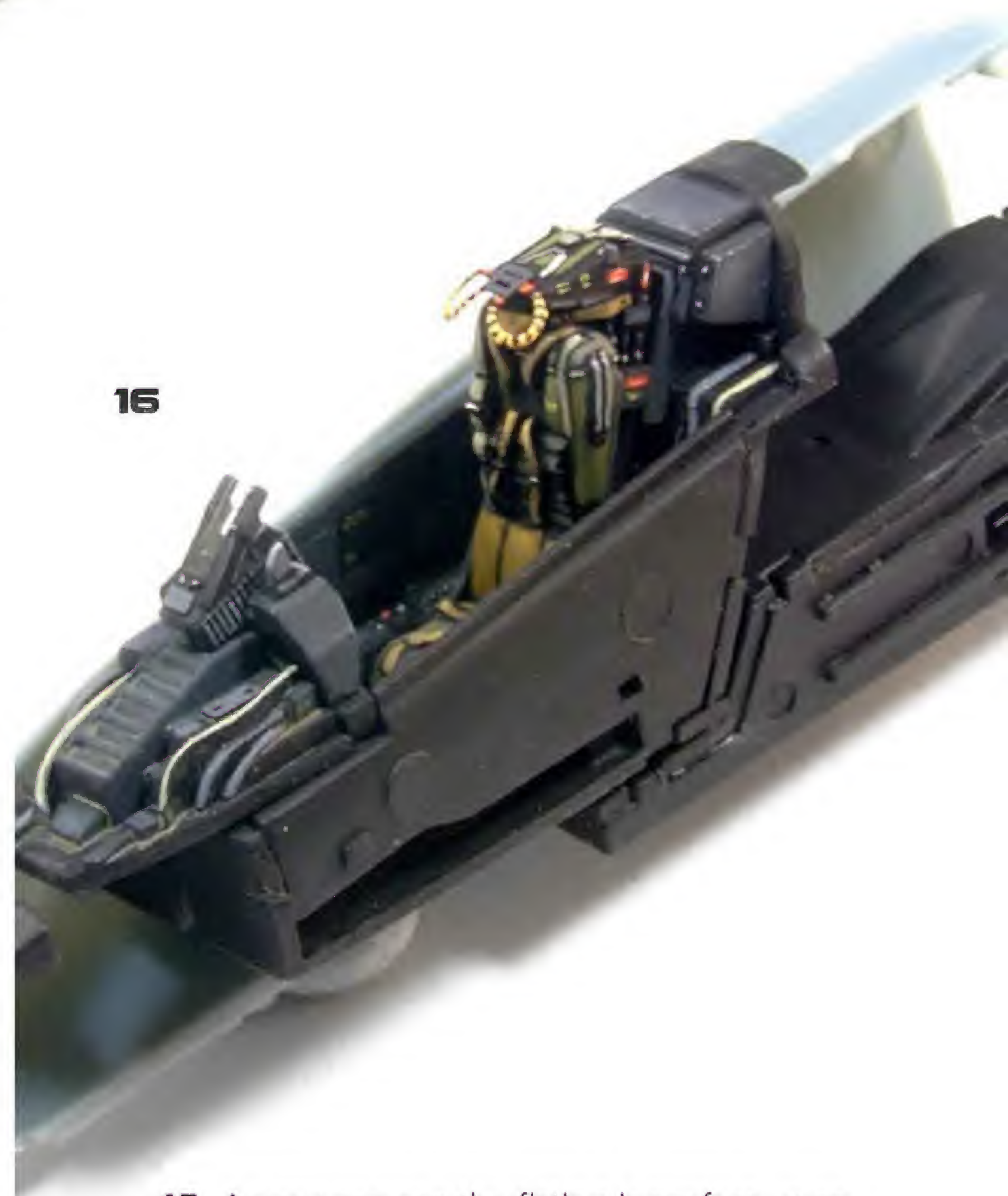
14. All the sub assemblies are ready to be glued. In 1/48 scale we must increase the depth and highlights in the details.



15



16



15. As you can see the fitting is perfect, even with a seat from another brand not included in the kit.

16. Also the rest of the elements are nicely reproduced and with a perfect fitting inside the fuselage.

17. We just need to add some filler in the nose. Nothing serious.



17

18. Model assembled. As you can see we have to engrave some missing panel lines and rivets here and there.

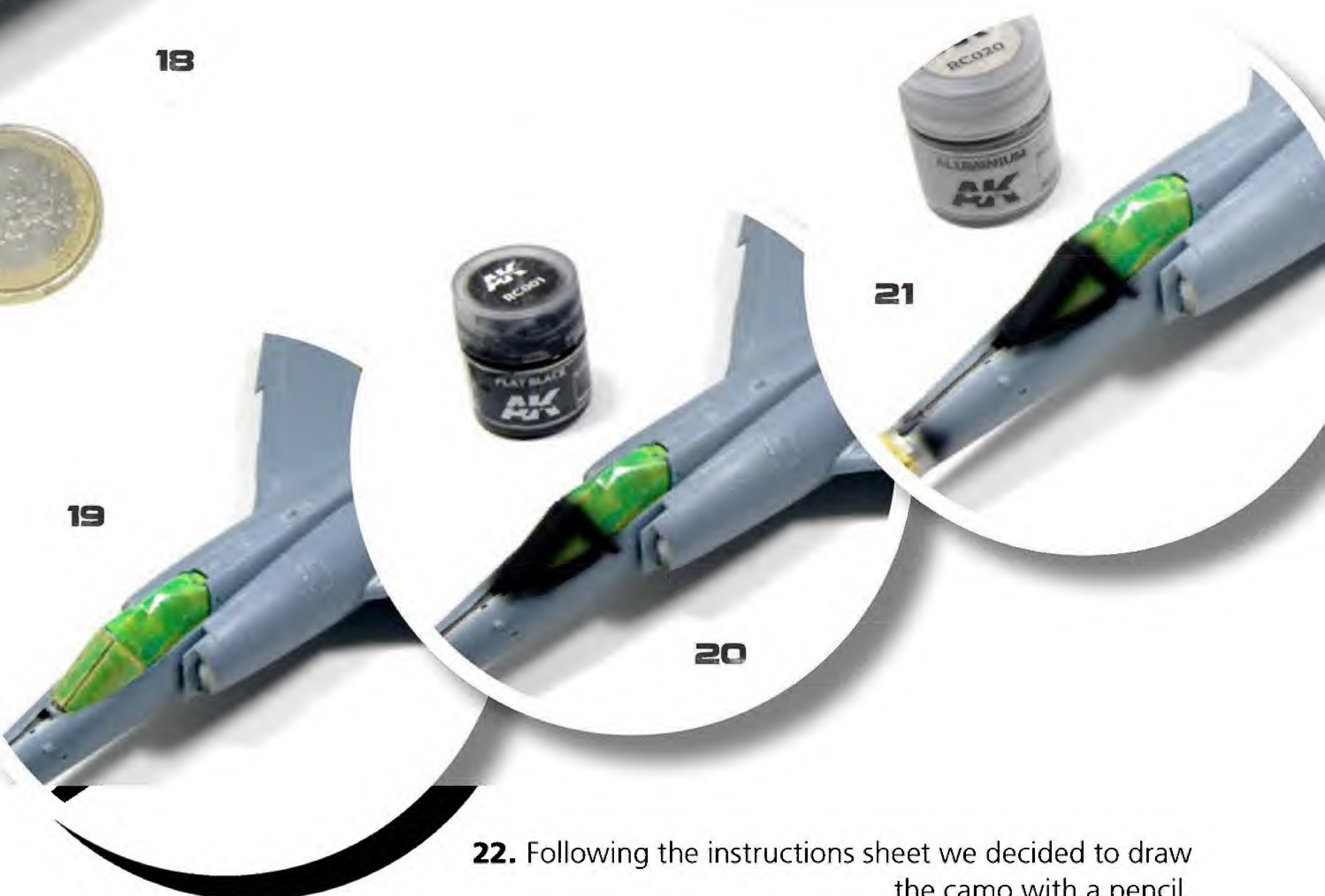


18

19. After glueing most of the elements of the fuselage (...the fuselage itself is made of nine parts) we mask the canopy and wheel bays.

20. First we airbrush external side of the canopy with RC-001 Flat black. The radar dome was also painted with this color.

21. The internal area of the radar dome has a ring that has to be painted in RC-020 Aluminium.



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22. Following the instructions sheet we decided to draw the camo with a pencil.



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23. As always, the first color to be applied is the lightest one, in this case RC-237 in both the upper side and underside.

24. The next color to be airbrushed is RC-244.

25. This version has a commemorative flag (red, blue and white) so we need to mask this area.

26. Its important to apply the RC-004 white as the first layer to intensify the brightness of the rest of the colors.

27. RC-006 Red was airbrushed next.

28. In the central upper area of the fuselage we airbrush another brighter red tone, RC-005 Signal red.

29. Next we have to mask again and paint with RC-011 Blue.



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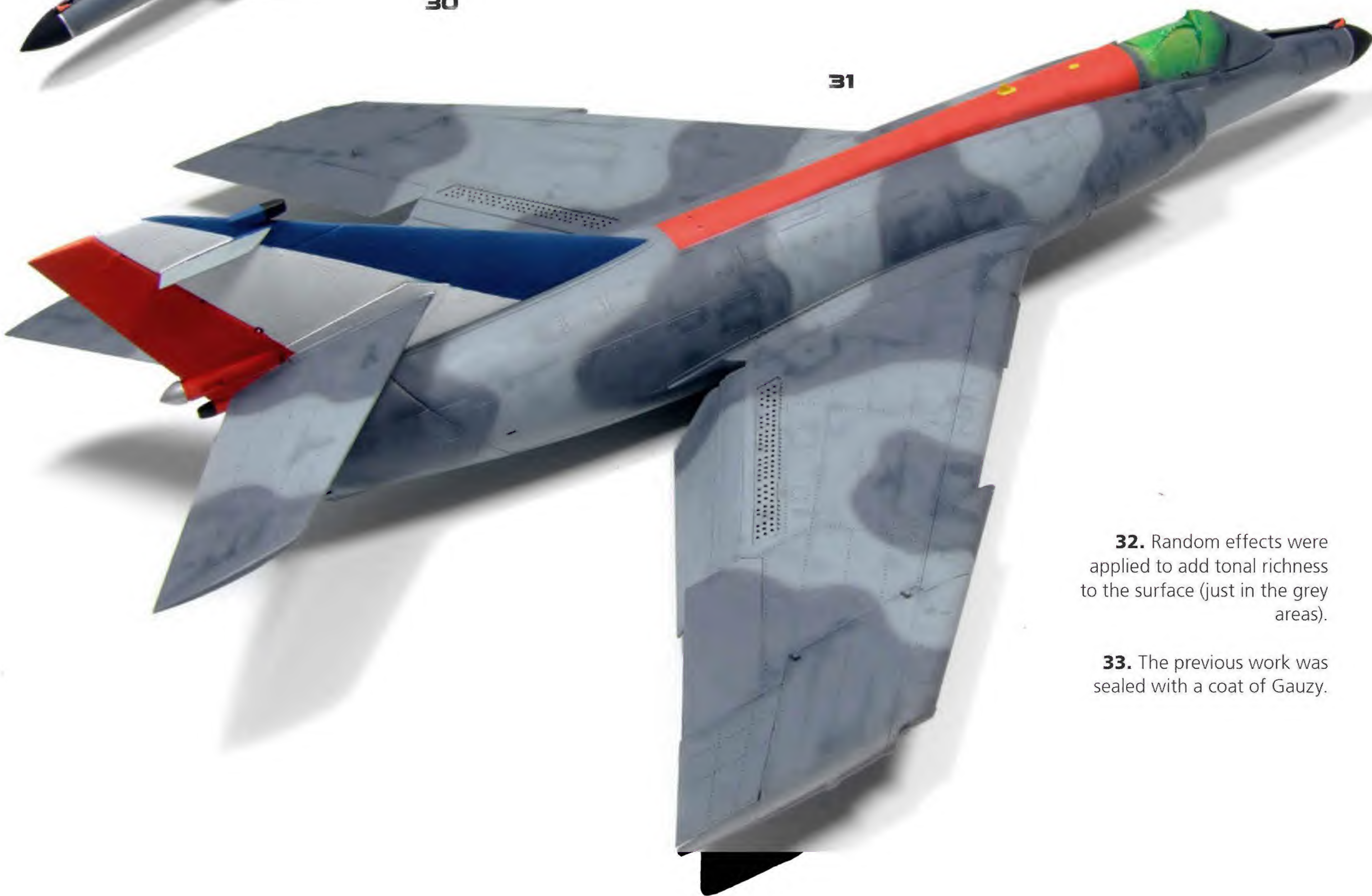
29



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30. Overall look of the model with the national flag painted.

31. The highlights were done adding white to each tone of the camo while the shadows were applied adding black.



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32. Random effects were applied to add tonal richness to the surface (just in the grey areas).

33. The previous work was sealed with a coat of Gauzy.



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34. We can now apply a Dark Wash from Mig Productions.

35. After 20/30 minutes we can remove the excess with a soft cloth or a piece of kitchen paper.

36. Some subtle weathering effects were achieved using oil paints.

37. Decals were applied next. Carefully we have to repeat the process using decal solutions and more gloss varnish

38. Once we remove the masks of the canopy and the wheel bays we have to touch up some minor damage produced in the paint. Acrylic paints are perfect for this.

39. The fuel tanks are weathered the same way but increasing the weathering in the nose.

40. Overall look of all the sub assemblies ready to be glued. Wheels, undercarriage, hatches, weapons, air brakes, ladder...all with its individual weathering effects.













IN THE NEXT ISSUE

D-DAY

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Normandy landings, the D-Day, and in ACES HIGH we could not miss the chance to make a Special issue to commemorate the date of the start of the liberation of Europe during the Second World War with a variety of aircraft, schemes and nationalities with their famous invasion stripes and some other surprises that we are already working on!





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